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A Meeting will be held at the College on Wednesday, January 11, at 8 o'clock P.M., to establish Evening Classes.
The Masters receive Boarders at their own Houses.
For Prospectuses and further particulars apply to the Rev. Wm. POLLOCK, Hon. Sec., at the College, or 35, Inverness-road, W.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY COMPANY
OF CANADA.

The SHAREHOLDERS are hereby informed that INTEREST, at the rate of six per cent. *annuo*, on the consolidated Stock of the Company, for the half-year ending the 31st of December, 1859, WILL BE PAID as in July last on the seven per cent. Debentures of the Company having fifteen years to run from the 1st of October, 1857.

In cases where the Interest due to any Shareholder shall be less than 100s., a scrip Certificate for the amount will be issued, bearing interest, payable half-yearly, at the same rate as the Debentures.

These Debentures and Certificates will be forwarded to each Proprietor on the 15th January, 1860, on the consolidated Stock of the Company to the undersigned of a sufficient number of Certificates (redeemable in 1873) to represent 100s., a seven per cent. Debenture of the Company for that amount will be given in exchange.
To obtain the Interest for the Half-Year ending the 31st inst. on the Debenture Certificates (redeemable in 1873) already issued, they must be deposited at this Office on or after the 15th proximo, and, after three clear days, they will be returned with a warrant for the interest due.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from Monday, the 2nd day of January, 1860, to Saturday, the 14th, both days inclusive, for the purpose of making up the books to carry out the above arrangement.

NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN, that the Interest due on the 1st of January, 1860, on the first and second Bonds, and the ordinary six per cent. Debentures of the Company, will be payable on and after Monday, the 2nd of January, 1860, on presentation of the Coupons at the Bankers of the Company, Messrs. Glyn, Mills & Co., 67, Lombard-street, E.C.

By order of the Board of Directors,
21, Old Broad-street, London, E.C. C. F. KONEY, Sec.
Dec. 23, 1859.

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The Share List of the above Company will be finally closed on Saturday, the 31st inst.; till then applications will be received by the Brokers, Messrs. Mackie & North, 29, Threadneedle-street; and by the Secretary, at the Offices of the Company, after which no further applications will be entertained.

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GEO. C. HARRIS, Secretary.

Offices, 35, Gracechurch-street, London, E.C.

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The CLASSES will begin for the LENT TERM on THURSDAY, January 19, 1860.

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Gottfried Kinkel, Ph.D.—History of Fine Art—Geography.
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Nor must we omit to state that a strong Memorial from eminent men of science, urging another expedition, was addressed to the then First Lord of the Treasury (Lord Palmerston); but, although the Prime Minister had every desire to carry out the wishes of the memorialists, he was precluded from acceding to their petition by the strong objections of the Admiralty, who broke a long official silence by apprising Lady Franklin that no further search would be undertaken by Government. And when we look at the immediate antecedents of the Admiralty, we cannot be greatly surprised by their decision, however much we may differ from it. For, in opposition to the judgment of competent authorities, and in defiance of the principles of justice, they awarded 10,000*l.* to Dr. Rae for having, as they stated, "by virtue of his efforts, ascertained the fate of the Franklin Expedition"; and this being a settled official fact, of what avail would it have been to respond to the widow's appeal? But the Admiralty had, nevertheless, misgivings on the subject. For while, by rewarding Dr. Rae, they officially declared that Franklin's fate had been ascertained, they authorized the Hudson's Bay Company to equip a small expedition to descend the Fish River, commanded by Mr. Anderson, but unsupported by naval resources. The results of this weak attempt were, however, such as to render it more than ever desirable that an efficient expedition should be sent out, to solve, if possible, a problem of intensely painful interest.

Mr. Anderson's expedition, though short-handed and most imperfectly organized, made us aware that the Esquimaux had pillaged one, at least, of the two ships; and pretty authentic information was brought home that these had been abandoned not very far from King William Land. Unfortunately, Mr. Anderson and his companions, though full of zeal and energy for the cause in which they were engaged, were unable, in consequence of the damaged state of their boats, to devote more than nine days to the search. That Mr. Anderson felt convinced the search was not exhausted is evident by the fact, that he told Lady Franklin, on his return to England, that it was highly desirable that a ship should be immediately despatched to King William Land,—his firm opinion being that the wrecked vessels, or records of the expedition, would be found between Bellot Strait and that locality. But it is right to state that the Admiralty's determination to close the search was approved by many persons.

When Lady Franklin saw that the "precious fragment," to which she prophetically alluded in her remarkable letter as perhaps lying in some unvisited locality, would not be sought for by a Government Expedition, she had reason to apprehend that private enterprise would meet with but little encouragement from those who lavishly contribute to the equipment of expeditions to pestilential African rivers, involving a fearful loss of life. The result of an appeal to the public in a great measure justified these apprehensions. Warm and devoted friends came forward, it is true; but while the cost of her private expedition turns out to have been 10,412*l.*, the contributions towards its expense, including 500*l.* from Capt. Young, of the Merchant Service, who also gave his services gratuitously, amounted only to 2,981*l.* Besides these subscriptions, it is right to state that some useful ship stores were contributed by the Admiralty and private individuals; and the Royal Society provided various useful scientific instruments, which were employed to good purpose, and drew up a set of instructions for the guidance of the observers.

Lady Franklin had long been anxious to aid in the great national work of searching for her husband's expedition. As early as April, 1849, a meeting of a few of Sir John Franklin's relatives and friends was held, at Lady Franklin's request, with the view of discussing the desirability of equipping auxiliary private expeditions; and although those sent out had not the good fortune to come upon Franklin's last traces, they did excellent searching work, added considerably to our knowledge of the Arctic regions, and, above all, made us aware that a small ship, commanded by an officer of energy and determination, may be more effective than large vessels sailing under Admiralty orders, and, still further trammelled by an unenterprising commander. The fact is, that familiarity with the Arctic regions has stripped them of many of their supposed terrors; and precisely as ascents of Mont Blanc, by bold mountaineers, have shown us that the "monarch of mountains" may be ascended without a host of guides, so have private expeditions to the Polar seas informed us that very effective explorations may be accomplished by one small steamer. Encouraged by these facts, can we wonder, when the Admiralty issued their ultimatum, that Lady Franklin, who of all persons was most deeply interested in her husband's expedition, should have determined to make a final effort to ascertain his fate? The wonder rather is, that she should have been permitted to do the work almost single-handed. The

resolve being taken, the first step was to procure a ship. Here Lady Franklin was most fortunate. A previous application to the Admiralty for the use of the *Resolute* had been unsuccessful. This ship, it may be remembered, formed one of the four ships abandoned by Sir E. Belcher in the Arctic Seas. She drifted out of the ice uninjured, and was taken possession of by a United States whaler, purchased by the Government of that country, by whom she was refitted, and presented to the British nation in a state fit for immediate service. But probably it was well for the success of Lady Franklin's expedition that the *Resolute*, which is a large, unwieldy, bluff-built sailing-ship, was not placed at her disposal, for she purchased the *Fox*, a screw-steamer of 177 tons burthen, admirably adapted for the work, which had been built for the late Sir Richard Sutton, of fox-hunting celebrity. The purchase was completed at the end of April, 1857, and on the last day of the following June the *Fox* had been transformed, at Aberdeen, from a gilded pet of summer seas to a stout serviceable ship, fitted in all respects to bear the brunt of ice artillery. She was amply provisioned for twenty-eight months, and officered and manned by twenty-five souls, all eager to perform what Capt. McClintock very justly felt to be a great national duty.

Most fortunate, too, was Lady Franklin in obtaining the services of Capt. McClintock to command her venture. Thoroughly master of all the details of Arctic enterprise, he was peculiarly fitted for the service, accepted it cheerfully, and entered with spirit upon his duties:

"I could not but feel that, if the gigantic and admirably equipped national expeditions sent out upon precisely the same duty, and reflecting so much credit upon the Board of Admiralty, were ranked amongst the noblest efforts in the cause of humanity any nation ever engaged in, and that, if high honour was awarded to all composing those splendid expeditions, surely the effort became still more remarkable and worthy of approbation when its means were limited to one little vessel, containing but twenty-five souls, equipped and provisioned (although efficiently, yet) in a manner more according with the limited resources of a private individual than with those of the public purse. The less the means, the more arduous I felt was the achievement. The greater the risk—for the *Fox* was to be launched alone into those turbulent seas from which every other vessel had long since been withdrawn—the more glorious would be the success, the more honourable even the defeat, if again defeat awaited us."

—And if Lady Franklin was fortunate in having secured Capt. McClintock's services, he was equally fortunate in having excellent officers under him—Lieut. (now Commander) Hobson, R.N., Capt. Young (his sailing-master), and Dr. Walker being all as zealous as himself in the cause in which they were engaged.

The *Fox* was ready for sea on the 1st of July, and on the following day steamed out of Aberdeen harbour on her long and lonely voyage. Lady Franklin, who had superintended her equipment, bade her gallant captain and his officers and crew a hearty God's speed; and at Capt. McClintock's request placed the following letter in his hands, which contains the only written instructions that he could prevail upon her to give him:—

"Aberdeen, June 29, 1857.
"My Dear Captain McClintock,—You have kindly invited me to give you 'Instructions,' but I cannot bring myself to feel that it would be right in me in any way to influence your judgment in the conduct of your noble undertaking; and, indeed, I have no temptation to do so, since it appears to me that your views are almost identical with those which I had independently formed

before I had the advantage of being thoroughly possessed of yours. But had this been otherwise, I trust you would have found me ready to prove the implicit confidence I place in you by yielding my own views to your more enlightened judgment; knowing too as I do that your whole heart also is in the cause, even as my own is. As to the objects of the expedition and their relative importance, I am sure you know that the rescue of any possible survivor of the Erebus and Terror would be to me, as it would be to you, the noblest result of our efforts. To this object I wish every other to be subordinate; and next to it in importance is the recovery of the unspeakably precious documents of the expedition, public and private, and the personal relics of my dear husband and his companions. And lastly, I trust it may be in your power to confirm, directly or inferentially, the claims of my husband's expedition to the earliest discovery of the passage, which, if Dr. Rae's report be true (and the Government of our country has accepted and rewarded it as such), these martyrs in a noble cause achieved at their last extremity, after five long years of labour and suffering, if not at an earlier period. I am sure you will do all that man can do for the attainment of all these objects; my only fear is that you may spend yourselves too much in the effort; and you must, therefore, let me tell you how much dearer to me even than any of them is the preservation of the valuable lives of the little band of heroes who are your companions and followers. May God in his great mercy preserve you all from harm amidst the labours and perils which await you, and restore you to us in health and safety as well as honour! As to the honour I can have no misgiving. It will be yours as much if you fail (since you may fail in spite of every effort) as if you succeed; and be assured that, under any and all circumstances whatever, such is my unbounded confidence in you, you will possess and be entitled to the enduring gratitude of your sincere and attached friend,

JANE FRANKLIN."

All went well with the Fox to the 12th of August, at which period she had passed what is considered the most dangerous part of Melville Bay. But now difficulties arose, and she was brought up by ice near Brown's Islands, close to the great Greenland glacier. This has never been more graphically described:—

"There is much to excite intense admiration and wonder around us; one cannot at once appreciate the grandeur of this mighty glacier, extending unbroken for 40 or 50 miles. Its sea-cliffs, about 5 or 6 miles from us, appear comparatively low, yet the icebergs detached from it are of the loftiest description. Here, on the spot, it does not seem incorrect to compare the icebergs to mere chippings off its edge, and the floe-ice to the thinnest shavings. The far-off outline of glacier, seen against the eastern sky, has a faint tinge of yellow: it is almost horizontal, and of unknown distance and elevation. There is an unusual dearth of birds and seals: everything around us is painfully still, excepting when an occasional iceberg splits off from the parent glacier; then we hear a rumbling crash like distant thunder, and the wave occasioned by the launch reaches us in six or seven minutes, and makes the ship roll lazily for a similar period. I cannot imagine that within the whole compass of nature's varied aspects there is presented to the human eye a scene so well adapted for promoting deep and serious reflection, for lifting the thoughts from trivial things of every-day life to others of the highest import. The glacier serves to remind one at once of Time and of Eternity—of time, since we see portions of it break off to drift and melt away; and of eternity, since its downward march is so extremely slow, and its augmentations behind so regular, that no change in its appearance is perceptible from age to age. If even the untainted savages of luxuriant tropical regions regard the earth merely as a temporary abode, surely all who gaze upon this ice-overwhelmed region, this wide expanse of 'terrestrial wreck,' must be similarly assured that here 'we have no abiding place.' During daytime the strong glare is very distressing, hence the subdued light of midnight, when the sun just skims along the northern horizon, is much the most agree-

able part of the twenty-four hours; the temperature varies between 30° and 40° of Fahrenheit. The drift-ice of various descriptions about us is constantly in motion under the influence of mysterious surface and under-currents (according to their relative depths of flotation) which whirl them about in every possible direction. To the S.E. are two small islands, almost enveloped in the glacier, and far within it an occasional mountain-peak protrudes from beneath. From observing closely the variations in the glacier surface, I think we may safely infer that where it lies unbroken and smooth, the supporting land is level; and where much crevassed, the land beneath is uneven. The crevassed parts are of course impassable, but, by following the windings of the smooth surface, I think the interior could be reached. Some attempts to cross the glacier in South Greenland have failed, yet, by studying its character and attending to this remark, I think places might be found where an attempt would succeed. Mr. Petersen tells me that the Esquimaux of Upernivik are unable to account for occasional disappearances and reappearances of immense herds of reindeer, except by assuming that they migrate at intervals to feeding-grounds beyond the glacier, the surface of which he also says is smooth enough in many places even for dog-sledges to travel upon. As there is much uninhabited land both to the northward and southward of Upernivik, I do not see the necessity for this supposition. The habits of the Esquimaux confine them almost exclusively to the islands and sea-coasts."

Battling with thick-ribbed ice occupied many days, until the apprehension of having to winter in the pack assumed the dreaded form of reality. See, however, how cheerfully this prospect is borne:—

"Notwithstanding such a withering blight to my dearest hopes, yet I cannot overlook the many sources of gratification which do exist; we have not only the necessities, but also a fair portion of the luxuries of ordinary sea-life; our provisions and clothing are abundant and well suited to the climate. Our whole equipment, though upon so small a scale, is perfect in its way. We all enjoy perfect health, and the men are most cheerful, willing and quiet. Our 'native auxiliaries,' consisting of Christian and his twenty-nine dogs, are capable of performing immense service; whilst Mr. Petersen from his great Arctic experience is of much use to me, besides being all that I could wish as an interpreter. Humanly speaking, we were not unreasonable in confidently looking forward to a successful issue of this season's operations, and I greatly fear that poor Lady Franklin's disappointment will consequently be the more severely felt. We are doomed to pass a long winter of absolute inutility, if not of idleness, in comparative peril and privation: nevertheless the men seem very happy,—thoughtless of course, as true sailors always are."

And look at this Christmas party in the middle of the great ice-drift:—

"Our Christmas was a very cheerful, merry one. The men were supplied with several additional articles, such as hams, plum-puddings, preserved gooseberries and apples, nuts, sweetmeats, and Burton ale. After Divine Service they decorated the lower deck with flags, and made an immense display of food. The officers came down with me to see their preparations. We were really astonished! Their mess-tables were laid out like the counters in a confectioner's shop, with apple and gooseberry tarts, plum and sponge cakes in pyramids, besides various other unknown puffs, cakes, and loaves of all sizes and shapes. We bake all our own bread, and excellent it is. In the background were nicely browned hams, meat pies, cheeses, and other substantial articles. Rum and water in wine-glasses and plum-cake was handed to us: we wished them a happy Christmas, and complimented them on their taste and spirit in getting up such a display. Our silken sledge banners had been borrowed for the occasion, and were regarded with deference and peculiar pride. In the evening the officers were enticed down amongst the men again, and at a late hour I was requested, as a great favour, to come down and see how much

they were enjoying themselves. I found them in the highest good humour with themselves and all the world. They were perfectly sober, and singing songs, each in his turn. I expressed great satisfaction at having seen them enjoying themselves so much and so rationally; I could therefore the better describe it to Lady Franklin, who was so deeply interested in everything relating to them. I drank their healths, and hoped our position next year would be more suitable for our purpose. We all joined in drinking the healths of Lady Franklin and Miss Cracroft, and amid the acclamations which followed I returned to my cabin, immensely gratified by such an exhibition of genuine good feeling, such veneration for Lady Franklin, and such loyalty to the cause of the expedition. It was very pleasant also that they had taken the most cheering view of our future prospects. I verily believe I was the happiest individual on board that happy evening."

At length, after fearful anxiety, and having drifted, during 242 days, 1,385 miles, the Fox emerged from the pack on the 25th of April 1858. The day of release was full of appalling dangers, and so great were the perils that Capt. McClintock declares he can well understand how men's hair has turned grey in a few hours.

Most men, after such an ordeal as this, would have abandoned the undertaking, happy in the prospect of returning to England without the loss of their ship, but such a thought never entered into the head of Capt. McClintock.

The Fox was now steered for Holsteinborg in Greenland, the men and dogs recruited, and after undergoing more dangers—one nearly fatal to the ship—the party crossed in safety the dreaded Melville Bay, passed up Lancaster Sound, and anchored on the 11th of August off Beechy Island. Here the Fox was coaled from the stores left on the island by previous expeditions, and a tablet, to the memory of the Franklin Expedition, which had been prepared by Lady Franklin's instructions, was set up. Favoured by open water, the voyage was renewed; and after an ineffectual attempt to pass down Peel Sound, the Fox was navigated into Regent Inlet, as far as Fury Point, which was reached on the 20th of August, only one iceberg being in sight. Great hopes were now entertained that they would get through Bellot Strait; but such are the vicissitudes of Arctic voyaging, that five attempts were defeated by ice, which surged wildly in huge masses through the narrow channel.

On the 28th of September the Fox was laid up for the winter in a secure harbour in Bellot Strait, to which the name of Kennedy was given. During the winter, hourly magnetic observations were made in a hut constructed of blocks of ice; and we have General Sabine's authority for stating that the observations which have been communicated to the Royal Society are of very great scientific value. Preparations were also made for the great sledge expeditions, and here the experience acquired by Capt. McClintock's previous sledge journeys was of infinite service. Three parties were organized; one commanded by Capt. McClintock, the second by Lieut. Hobson, and the third by Capt. Young. They started on the 17th of February, and here we have the order of march:—

"Our equipment consisted of a very small brown-holland tent, macintosh floor-cloth, and felt robes; besides this, each man had a bag of double blanketing, and a pair of fur boots, to sleep in. We wore mocassins over the pieces of blanket in which our feet were wrapped up, and, with the exception of a change of this foot-gear, carried no spare clothes. The daily routine was as follows:—I led the way; Petersen and Thompson followed, conducting their sledges; and in this manner we trudged on for eight or ten hours without halting,

except when necessary to disentangle the dog-harness. When we halted for the night, Thompson and I usually sawed out the blocks of compact snow and carried them to Petersen, who acted as the master-mason in building the snow-hut; the hour and a half or two hours usually employed in erecting the edifice was the most disagreeable part of the day's labour, for, in addition to being already well tired and desiring repose, we became thoroughly chilled whilst standing about. When the hut was finished, the dogs were fed, and here the great difficulty was to insure the weaker ones their full share in the scramble for supper; then commenced the operation of unpacking the sledge, and carrying into our hut everything necessary for ourselves, such as provision and sleeping gear, as well as all boots, fur mittens, and even the sledge dog-harness to prevent the dogs from eating them during our sleeping hours. The door was now blocked up with snow, the cooking-lamp lighted, foot-gear changed, diary written up, watches wound, sleeping bags wriggled into, pipes lighted and the merits of the various dogs discussed, until supper was ready; the supper swallowed, the upper robe or coverlet was pulled over, and then to sleep. Next morning came breakfast, a struggle to get into frozen moccasins, after which the sledges were pecked and another day's march commenced.

—And here is a list of the articles carried by each party, the load for each man to drag being 200 lb., and for each dog 100 lb:—

	lb. weight.
Two sledges and fittings complete ..	110
Tent, waterproof blankets, floor-cloth, two sleeping-ropes, and six blanket sleeping-bags ..	90
Cooking-utensils, shovel, saw, snow-knife, and sundry small articles ..	40
Sledge-gun and ammunition ..	20
Magnetic and astronomical instruments ..	60
Six knapsacks, containing spare clothing ..	60
Various tins and bags, in which provision and fuel were stored ..	50
Articles for barrier ..	40
Provisions ..	930
Total ..	1,400

Bearing in mind the limited resources of the sledge parties, the intense cold, and the blinding snow-storms that frequently prevailed, it must be admitted that the results of the journeys entitle Capt. McClinton, and his officers and men, to be enrolled in the foremost rank of Arctic explorers.

The main features of these land explorations have been already published; but the details of the exciting search, the interviews with the Esquimaux, and recovery of the relics in their possession, abound with thrilling interest. While Capt. Young explored Prince of Wales Land, and discovered a channel between that land and Prince Albert's Land, Capt. McClinton and Lieut. Hobson directed their steps along the shores of Boothia Felix to King William Land. It was the good fortune of the latter to find the all-important Record on the north-west shore of that land. With respect to this Document Capt. McClinton observes:—

"That record is indeed a sad and touching relic of our lost friends, and to simplify its contents, I will point out separately the double story it so briefly tells. In the first place, the record paper was one of the printed forms usually supplied to discovery ships for the purpose of being enclosed in bottles and thrown overboard at sea, in order to ascertain the set of the currents, blanks being left for the date and position; any person finding one of these records is requested to forward it to the Secretary of the Admiralty, with a note of time and place; and this request is printed upon it in six different languages. Upon it was written, apparently by Lieutenant Gore, as follows:—'28 of May, 1847. H.M. ships Erebus and Terror wintered in the ice in lat. 7° 05' N., long. 98° 23' W. Having wintered in 1846-7 at Beechey Island, in lat. 74° 43' 28" N., long. 91° 39' 15" W., after having ascended Wellington Channel to lat. 77°, and returned by the west side of Cornwallis Island. Sir John Franklin commanding the expedition. All well. Party consisting of 2 officers and 6 men

left the ships on Monday 24th May, 1847. GM. GORE, Lieut.; CHAS. F. DES VIGUEUX, Mate.'—There is an error in the above document, namely, that the Erebus and Terror wintered at Beechey Island in 1846-7.—The correct dates should have been 1845-6; a glance at the date at the top and bottom of the record proves this, but in all other respects the tale is told in as few words as possible of their wonderful success up to that date, May, 1847. * * But, alas! round the margin of the paper upon which Lieutenant Gore in 1847 wrote those words of hope and promise, another hand had subsequently written the following words:—'April 25, 1848.—H.M. ships Terror and Erebus were deserted on the 22nd April, 5 leagues N.N.W. of this, having been beset since 12 September, 1846. The officers and crews, consisting of 105 souls, under the command of Captain F. R. M. Crozier, landed here in lat. 69° 37' 42" N., long. 98° 41' W. Sir John Franklin died on the 11th June, 1847; and the total loss by deaths in the expedition has been to this date 9 officers and 15 men. (Signed) F. R. M. CROZIER, Captain and Senior Officer. (Signed) JAMES FITZJAMES, Captain H.M.S. Erebus.—and start (on) to-morrow, 26th, for Back's Fish River.' This marginal information was evidently written by Captain Fitzjames, excepting only the note stating when and where they were going, which was added by Captain Crozier."

Another marginal note states that the Record was transferred to the position where it was found, from a spot near Point Victory, where it had been originally deposited by the late Commander Gore; so that this officer, too, had died within the year.

It will be observed that Capt. Fitzjames mentions 129 men as composing the Franklin Expedition, which does not agree with the number generally supposed to have been on board the Erebus and Terror. But of the 134 men who left England, five were invalided, and returned in the store-ships which parted from the expedition at the entrance of Lancaster Sound, leaving 129 men, as Capt. Fitzjames states, who entered the ice with Sir John Franklin.

It is impossible to read Capt. McClinton's pages without coming to the conclusion, that every locality on the shores of King William Land was minutely searched where it was at all probable that any document, or even memorandum, connected with Franklin existed. The labour cannot have been light, for the snow was still deep and the clothes alone left by his retreating crews formed a huge heap four feet high. The details of this most exciting search abound with thrilling interest, and lead to the conclusion arrived at by Capt. McClinton, that the Esquimaux spoke a melancholy truth when they stated that the white men from the ships fell down and died as they walked along. Of course, in the absence of trustworthy evidence, we cannot positively assert that all the retreating party perished in this manner. Indeed, it is just possible that the story told by the Esquimaux to Capt. McClure at Point Warren, may relate to one or more of Franklin's party. When Capt. McClure was prosecuting his voyage in search of the North-West Passage, along the north coast of America, in 1850, he fell in with Esquimaux at Point Warren, from whom he heard a story which now possesses considerable interest. A brass button seen suspended from the ear of a chief was declared to have been taken from a white man who had been killed by the Esquimaux. The white man, it was further stated, belonged to a party which had landed at Point Warren; but the only answer that Capt. McClure could obtain as to the probable time when this transaction took place was, "that it might be last year, or when I was a child." Capt. McClure visited Point Warren, and found the remains of two huts, but no graves; further

questions, however, elicited the information that two boats had touched at Point Warren the year before. "So the history of the white man," he adds, "will still continue a mystery."

From communications with the Esquimaux on King William Land, Capt. McClinton believes that one of Franklin's ships was destroyed by the ice, the other wrecked and pilaged. The natives met with on the east side of King William Land, who bartered away the articles taken from this ship, stated that they had crossed King William Land to get at the ship, but although Capt. McClinton carefully swept the shores of this land he could not find any vestige of the wreck.

We must refer to Capt. McClinton's deeply-interesting narrative for his speculations respecting the course taken by Franklin, from the time of his departure from Beechey Island until his ships became beset by ice. We may, however, state that Capt. McClinton and his officers hold, with experienced Arctic authorities, that by penetrating to the sea where the Erebus and Terror were abandoned, and which has a direct communication with the previously discovered channel along the north coast of America, Franklin was the first discoverer of a North-West Passage. Had he been spared a little longer, we cannot help thinking, that from his practical knowledge of the frightfully barren nature of the country to which the retreating party were bound, he would have preferred attempting to escape by boats to Lancaster Sound, where whalers might have been fallen in with, striking on his way Fury Beach, where he knew stores existed, and from which we observe Capt. McClinton drew supplies, to the overland route through North America. When Capt. McClinton and his officers were thoroughly satisfied that further search would be fruitless, they returned to the Fox, and steamed out of Port Kennedy on the 10th of August. The great object of the expedition has now been attained; but our author's concluding pages are so full of incidents relating to geographical discoveries, Natural History, and anecdotes respecting the Esquimaux, that the narrative never flags in interest. At length, after an absence from England of two years, two months and eighteen days, Capt. McClinton had the satisfaction of bringing the Fox back uninjured. During her absence three of the crew died,—one in consequence of a fall down the hold, one of apoplexy, and the third of scurvy, induced, in a great measure, by his wilful neglect of ordinary sanitary precautions.

The length of our article attests our high opinion of Capt. McClinton's literary performance. We feel sure that no book will afford greater delight around the Christmas-fire than this manly story of one of the most important voyages ever made in the Arctic Seas, illustrating, as it does, the energy of a self-reliant Englishwoman, and the heroism of those who carried out her wishes. Lady Franklin, indeed, may well be proud of the brilliant success that has attended her enterprise,—and the more so, because the fate of her husband's expedition has been ascertained, not only by her untiring zeal, but also by searching a part of the Arctic regions which she was most anxious should have been visited by her former expeditions, but which unforeseen circumstances prevented.

We have only to add, that a voluminous Appendix contains a geological account of the Arctic Archipelago, by the Rev. S. Haughton, besides various official documents; and that the book is illustrated by a comprehensive and clear map, by Mr. Arrowsmith,—excellent wood engravings,—an admirable fac-simile of the

"Record,"—and a copy of David's medallion of Sir John Franklin,—in which, however, we regret to say, the wood-engraver has failed to reproduce the excellent likeness achieved by the French sculptor.

A Visit to the Philippine Islands. By Sir John Bowring, LL.D. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

It was a pleasant thing to be Sir John Bowring, visiting the Philippines. The whole of that little Spanish world, enriched with orientalism, was in arms to receive him. A good ship, bearing the Queen's flag, was placed at his disposal; he had a splendid suite of apartments in a palace; guards of Lancers followed his carriage; triumphal arches were thrown across the roads as he made his excursions; best of all, an amazonian regiment—a cavalcade of brilliant girls in fairy habits—escorted him at full gallop among the mountains. In this rosy atmosphere did the Governor of Hong-Kong seek health and refreshment in November, 1858, when weary of his island administration, and desirous of seeing something more strange than an English merchant and less repulsive than a Chinaman. And he went with the story of Magellan lighting up the seas and coasts—that story of the gallant voyager at whom the Patagonians roared like bulls, who discovered the Isles of Thieves, who baptized many kings, and at last was killed at Mactan by the worshippers of the sun. Ever since his day the Philippines have been closely related to Europe, yet but little is generally known of them, except by Spanish readers. Indeed, English writers on the subject have been few, and yet their history has been one long romance, from the day when they were first called the Islands of St. Lazarus to that in which Valmont de Bomaze thought he had identified in the serpent stone a "divine drug" which would cure all diseases. In Mindanao, in Luzon, in Zebu, in Mactan itself, many singular events have transpired, and the biographies of the Spanish Governor's generals would abound in fascinating episodes. Sir John Bowring would probably appreciate all this; indeed, he appears to have skimmed the annals of the group; but he tarried awhile in the Philippines to observe, and not to make researches. Therefore, upon entering the beautiful harbour of Manila, undergoing the inevitable state receptions, and being sumptuously located, he began at once his ramblings, visits, inquiries, and excursions:—not with any assistance, however, from the British Consul. That dignity was at his model farm, "where he principally passes his time among outcast Indians, in an almost inaccessible place," while his deputy hoped it was incumbent upon him to entertain "His Excellency." But the tourist stood in no need of official services. The grandees of the city were eager to evince their respect. So that, when installed in his palace, with windows glazed with plates of semi-transparent oyster-shells, he forgot altogether the Consul and Consul's deputy; but it was disappointing, when the receptions took place, to see so little of the picturesque from Spain—no towering tortoise-shell combs, no black cabellera, no velo, saya or basquiña; but Parisian fashions of ultra severity. It was externally that "the Very Noble City of Manila"—so styled by the third Philip—was seen under its most imposing aspects, for, although earthquake-shaken, it wears the honours of time, and is sufficiently unlike any town of Europe to interest a traveller. Within the houses, as M. Mallat testifies, something of ideal hospitality is to be enjoyed. How the people live the Frenchman pleasantly describes, and the suggestion is not disagreeable:—the early chocolate, the morning breakfast, the afternoon

dinner, the evening ride, the little refectory at dusk; but there is one point in Manila customs difficult to understand. We may appreciate a fine mat, encircled by mosquitoes, as a couch, but not the use of a pillow for the legs instead of the head! No sheets; the slumberers wear garments calculated to serve them should an earthquake eject them into the streets. It is very imprudent to act as some European ladies have done, and retire to rest like dryads, confiding in the stability of the globe. Passing Sir John Bowring's sketches of the capital, however, let us glance at rural Philippine life as illustrated by a native festival:—

"There was a village festival at Sampaloc (the Indian name for tamarinds), to which we were invited. Bright illuminations adorned the houses, triumphal arches the streets; everywhere music and gaiety and bright faces. There were several balls at the houses of the more opulent mestizos or Indians, and we joined the joyous assemblies. The rooms were crowded with Indian youths and maidens. Parisian fashions have not invaded these villages—there were no crinolines—these are confined to the capital; but in their native garments there was no small variety—the many-coloured gowns of home manufacture—the richly embroidered kerchiefs of piña—earrings and necklaces, and other adornings; and then a vivacity strongly contrasted with the characteristic indolence of the Indian races. Tables were covered with refreshments—coffee, tea, wines, fruits, cakes and sweetmeats; and there seemed just as much of flirting and coquetry as ever marked the scenes of higher civilization. To the Europeans great attentions were paid, and their presence was deemed a great honour. Our young midshipmen were among the busiest and liveliest of the throng, and even made their way, without the aid of language, to the good graces of the *Zagalas*."

From the illustration accompanying this sketch it may be inferred that the young washerwomen of Sampaloc deserved the admiration of these same midshipmen. Sir John Bowring proceeds to suggest an appalling idea of the tobacco manufacture, which means from eight to ten thousand girls eternally chatting over their work in spite of rebuke, and even of correction more salutary. But he was not satisfied with inspecting those parts of the islands haunted by population and industry. We have a glimpse here of the primitive tracts intervening between the scattered settlements:—

"We advanced into the more elevated regions, growing more wild and wonderful in their beauties. As we proceeded the roads became worse and worse, and our horses had some difficulty in dragging the carriages through the deep mud. We had often to ask for assistance from the Indians to extricate us from the ruts, and they came to our aid with patient and persevering cheerfulness. When the main road was absolutely impassable, we deviated into the forest, and the Indians, with large knives—their constant companions—chopped down the impeding bushes and branches, and made for us a practicable way. After some hours' journey we arrived at Majayjay, and between files of Indians, with their flags and music, were escorted to the convent, whence the good Franciscan friar, Maximo Rico, came to meet us, and led us up the wide staircase to the vast apartments above."

Throughout Sir John Bowring is careful to present all the facts he could collect bearing on the social, industrial and religious condition of these islands, adding to this much interesting information on their commerce and resources. Beyond Majayjay carriage locomotion was impossible; the travellers mounted on palanquins and were borne up along the torrent beds, along the edges of immense ravines—no sounds but bird-singing and bee-humming, and then—a mountain paradise:—

"At last we reached a plain on the top of a mountain, where two grandly adorned litters, with

a great number of bearers, were waiting, and we were welcomed by a gathering of graceful young women, all on ponies, which they managed with admirable agility. They were clad in the gayest dresses. The Alcaldé called them his *Amazonas*; and a pretty spokeswoman informed us, in very pure Castilian, that they were come to escort us to Lucban, which was about a league distant. The welcome was as novel as it was unexpected. I observed the *Tagalos* mounted indifferently on the off or near side of their horses. Excellent equestrians were they; and they galloped and caracolled to the right and the left, and flirted with their embellished whips. A band of music headed us; and the Indian houses which we passed bore the accustomed demonstrations of welcome. The roads had even a greater number of decorations—arches of ornamental bamboos on both sides of the way, and firing of guns announcing our approach. The *Amazonas* wore bonnets adorned with ribands and flowers,—all had kerchiefs of embroidered piña on their shoulders, and variously coloured skirts and gowns of native manufacture added to the picturesque effect. So they gambolled along—before, behind, or at our sides where the roads permitted it—and seemed quite at ease in all their movements."

Very pleasant, again we say, to be Sir John Bowring on a visit to the Philippines. Returning, he was escorted to Binan through files of youths and maidens, under a triumphal arch, and to the dwelling of a rich mestizo; and thence, after another entertainment, back to Manila. At this point a large digression is occupied with a retrospect of Philippine history, and others on the geography, climate, productions, and government of the islands. We have afterwards a dashing criticism upon the amusing volume of M. de la Gironière.

Perhaps Sir John himself is open to a charge of exaggeration when he refers to "the thousand islands of the Philippine Archipelago;" but his comments upon Malthus are striking enough, taken in connexion with his picture of those islands fitted for the habitation of man—vast, naturally wealthy, abounding in rivers and harbours, yet all but desolate, and capable of sustaining a population sixfold more numerous than that which now occupies them. We believe the native race has dwindled considerably since Magellan set up his banner, embroidered with a crown of thorns, and died like Decius in the marsh. As to European residents:

"The number of European Spaniards settled in the Philippines bears a very small proportion to that of the mixed races. There are 670 males and 119 females in the capital (Manila and Binondo). Of these there are 114 friars, all living in Manila, 8 ecclesiastics, 46 merchants, 14 medical practitioners, and the majority of the others military and civil functionaries. But in none of the islands does the proportion of Spaniards approach that which is found in the capital. Probably the whole number of European Spaniards in the islands does not amount to 2,000. There are 96 foreigners established in Binondo—85 males and 11 females (none in Manila proper). Of these, 50 are merchants or merchants' assistants. There are 22 British subjects, 15 French, 15 South Americans, 11 citizens of the United States, 9 Germans, and 9 Swiss."

It is the mixed, or mestizo, races that form the influential element. The young women of this class are remarkable for their virtue, and "their parents object to their learning Spanish, lest it should be an instrument of seduction." In the course of an excellent account of the native tribes, we have an illustration of barbaric justice:—

"In the administration of justice the elders were consulted, but there was no code of laws, and the missionaries affirm that the arbitrators of quarrels were generally but too well paid for their awards. Murder committed by a slave was punished with death—committed by a person of rank, was indemnified by payments to the injured family. When

a robbery took place, all the suspected persons were ordered to bring a load of grass; these loads were mixed in a heap, and if the stolen article was found it was restored to the owner, and no inquiry made as to the bringer of the bundle in which it was concealed. If this method failed, they flung all the suspected into a river, and held him to be guilty who came first to the surface, on the theory that remorse would not allow him to keep his breath. Many are said to have been drowned in order to escape the ignominy of rising out of the water. They sometimes placed candles of equal length in the hands of all the accused, and he was held to be guilty whose candle first went out. Another mode was to gather the accused round a light, and he towards whom the flames turned was condemned as the criminal."

It is an admirable notion that of the hay bundles, which gave the thief a last chance of making restitution without exposing his roguery. The Philippine Indians, altogether, are a very peculiar race; their customs and ideas are in some respects unique. Sir John Bowring, of course, denies that the entire population has been Catholicized, as the Spanish writers, especially of the ecclesiastic order, delight to aver. One of these, a friar, thus characterizes the Indian:—

"Did all mankind hang upon a single peg, and that peg were wanted by an Indian for his hat, he would sacrifice all mankind."

—Nor is Sir John Bowring's portrait very much more flattering.

It was impossible to avoid noticing the cock-fighters. The game in the Philippine Islands has been described as "a delirium"; instead of having his spurs sharpened, the Philippine cock is armed with razors; every day countless numbers of these "grim and ghastly fowls" perish, but the supply never fails. Thousands of their shrill clarions perpetually disturb the air. From ninety to a hundred combats often take place daily in one pit:—

"It is considered a discourtesy to touch an Indian's game cock, and permission is always asked to examine a favourite bird. He is the object of many a caress; he eats, crows, and sleeps in the arms of his master; and, whatever else may be forgotten, the cock is in continual remembrance. I have found him celebrated in verse in terms the most affectionate. A cock that has been frequently victorious is subjected to the most minute criticism, in order to discover by external marks what may serve to characterise his merits. The scales of his legs are counted, their form and distribution, the bent of the rings on the spurs, and whether the two spurs resemble each other; the shape of the toes and their nails, the number and colours of the wing feathers (eleven being the favourite quantity); white eyes are preferred to chesnut; a short comb falling over the eye and beak is a recommendation."

Many an Indian appears to live only for the purpose of training and petting his favourite bird; there are cock-doctors, and hospitals for the wounded; but kite-flying is another popular amusement of old and young, the kites being musical by day, and illuminated by night. But turn to a prettier glimpse:—

"The Indian women are generally cleanly in their persons, using the bath very frequently, and constantly cleaning and brightening their black and abundant hair, which they are fond of perfuming and tying in a knot behind, called the *pusod*, which is kept together by a small comb and gilded needles, and is adorned with a fragrant flower. They are proud of their small foot, which the Chinese call golden lily, and which has a slipper, often embroidered with gold or silver, just supported by the toes. Their walk is graceful and somewhat coquettish; they smoke, eat betel, and are rather given to display a languid, liquid eye."

These are the so-called Christianized Indians. In the interior still rove naked tribes living on game, honey, and wild roots. Their history is mysterious, and of their manners only vague

accounts have reached the European community. Their sub-divisions are numerous:—

"There are many speculations as to the origin of the darker, or black races, who now occupy the northern and central mountainous and little visited regions, and from whom one of the islands, *Negros*, takes its name. They principally dwell in the wilder part of the provinces of Iloos South, Pangasinan, Cagayan, and Nueva Ecija. They are of small stature, have somewhat flattened noses, curled hair, are agile, have no other dress than a covering of bark over their genitals, are dexterous hunters, have no fixed dwellings, but sleep wherever sunset finds them. Their whole property consists of their bow, a bamboo quiver and arrows, a strip of skin of the wild boar, and the girdle, which the Spaniards call the *tapa rabo* (tail cover). The *Negritos* are held to be the aboriginal inhabitants of the islands, which were invaded by those now called *Indios*, who much resemble, though they are a great improvement on, the Malayan race. The *Negritos* retired into the wilder districts as the *Tagals* advanced, but between the two races there exists a great intensity of hatred. The *Negritos* are the savages of the Philippines, and are divided into many tribes, and it is said every grade between cannibalism and the civilization of the Indian is found among them. They generally live on the wild fruits and vegetables which grow spontaneously, though some cultivate rice, and attend to the irrigation of their fields. Some make iron weapons, and the *Itaneg*, according to the friars, only want conversion to be in all respects equal to the *Indios*. This race has a mixture of Chinese blood, the *Ifugaos* of that of the Japanese. The ruder savages ornament their cabins with the skulls of their enemies. The *Apaygos* live in comfortable houses, and employ for floors polished planks instead of the interwoven bamboos of the *Tagals*. They carry on a trade in wax, cocoa and tobacco, and deck their dwellings with China earthenware."

The work of Sir John Bowring on the Philippine Islands is exhaustive in scope, if not in substance. It does not pretend to set forth all that is known of the islands; but, in a series of condensed chapters connected together by the author's reminiscences, presents a brilliant view of that rich region of sun and colour, the interest of which has never yet been acknowledged in Europe, but which the eastern navigator loves when passing the Ladrões, and sighting, perhaps, the Meia-co-Shinah Isles, he steers to the hurricane-swept channels of the Philippine group, rendered for ever memorable by the adventures and death of Magellan.

A History, Military and Municipal, of the Ancient Borough of the Devizes: and, subordinately, of the entire Hundred of Potterne and Cannings, in which it is included. (Devizes, Bull; London, Longman & Co.)

We do not know that any one cares whether this remarkably pleasant country-town was, or was not—it certainly was *not*—founded by Divitiacus, the Belgian. It would be uninteresting and fruitless to inquire whether its name be, or be not, derived from a word with which it has nothing in common—Punctuobice. We are satisfied with the knowledge that *Devizes* implies a division between other territories, and that this word came, in some districts, to be tantamount with the word *park*. Devizes, then, is the Dil Koosha of the county of Wilts.

Then, as for a founder, we cannot think there is any necessity for seeking him among mythological heathens. A better could not be come upon by a dozen such philosophers as Diogenes, with the most powerful of bull-eye lanterns, than Bishop Roger, who built the castle. What does it matter that some nameless Briton had pitched a stockade there before him, or some sturdy Saxon, long-haired and deep-draughted, had kept his own there for a long and obstinate season? In Roger we have a

Norman, after all, and *that*, to the thinking of some people, is the most desirable *stump* on which orator can be elevated to bore his hearers about race, and blood, and pure descent, Sir.

Roger was one of those men who are not only always ready to perform their duty, but who execute the task efficiently, and in brief time. "Prince Henry, while serving under his brother, William Rufus, one day entered the church at Caen, in Normandy, with a group of his military associates, and requested the officiating priest to sing a mass for them. Roger immediately began, and executed his office in such brief time, that the soldiers unanimously declared him the fittest person they had ever met with for chaplain to men of their profession." This was the man who became Bishop and Chancellor in England, and who, to our thinking, is the real founder of the pleasant town of Devizes.

We wanted a pleasant history of the place, and the author of that before us has compiled a long one, elaborately, and with much industry; but it is hardly a *pleasant* book. His method has been to take the History of England, and when it has anything that can be brought in connexion with the town or natives of the town of Devizes, to narrate, not all that is interesting touching the actors and the town, but that part of the History of England in which they are made to have a part. Where the author departs from this method his volume is much the better for it; and he has executed some portions of the volume so well, we can only regret that he has not cared to accomplish the whole of his task in equally creditable fashion.

The old town is now a quiet, retired old town. In its day it has been active and flourishing and proud, but now it has withdrawn from the world altogether, and its remains are to be met with between Melksham and Marlborough. It had, in its time, some things to be proud of: a Parliament was once held there; it boasts of Richard, as well as of Roger, of Devizes; its "Brittox" is warrant of its roystering Danish ancestry; and its people and hundreds of Wiltshire cousins flocked to Tewkesbury, and did not overcome that most rascally of lawful occupants of the throne, Edward the Fourth. At one period it contained more sheep and wool than all England besides, and no man lay so warm as when he was tucked up within a blanket of "the Vyze." Its neighbourhood furnishes one of the first of the martyrs for religion, stout John Bent, the heroic tailor, whose persecutors were so bitter that we cannot help thinking John may have had an account against them on his books. Then, the men of the place and its vicinity were once famous for their musical skill, their foot-ball playing, and their bell-ringing;—hungry work the last two, for which they had a choking and indigestible remedy in that "Simmel-cake" which surely none but a Devizes stomach can desire or retain. Aubrey himself, that rare Wiltshire gossip, would have failed to persuade us of the excellence of this cake, as he did his contemporaries that the medicinal spring here was a panacea for the ills of the flesh. Alleine was more successful, in *his* way, than Aubrey, when from Devizes he sounded his 'Alarm to the Unconverted.' That sort of alarm, indeed, the town always heeded, and when the Act of Uniformity drove so many ministers out of the Establishment, Dissent took root in the place with wonderful vigour. And yet some heroes had their heroic and disagreeable difficulties to surmount,—John Wesley was hunted out of the town by bull-dogs, long before he was welcomed there by the men and kissed by the ecstatic ladies.

Only a quarter of a century ago the cloth-manufacture of the place had only just died out, and bell-foundries, once active and profitable, ceased to be. The vocation that continued longest, and was capriciously lucrative, was that of the highwayman,—as might be expected of a town that stands near a plain, across which golden farmers rode home with purses heavier than their brains, and had violence done to both. The temptation was too strong for poor human nature that kept a bit of blood, did not love work, and had an idea that a free country was where a gentleman had a right to say, "Stand! and Deliver!"

More people used to run after, and, indeed, run away from, the flying highwayman of Wiltshire, than ever resorted to the *Beau*, to inspect the drawings of little Tommy Lawrence, the landlord's son; but the painter is now better esteemed than the highwayman; for Devizes folk are capricious, as they were in the last century, when they laughed at the Tulipomania, and beggared, or enriched, themselves with the share-mania respecting the Southampton Canal. Of all these things and persons Devizes is nevertheless proud, and should it lose memory of all besides, it will still remember Mr. Orator Hunt, who used to come and make the people dissatisfied with their lot,—and old Anne Simms, of Studley Green, who lived to one hundred and twelve, and was a thorough-going poacher till after she was a century old, laughing as she sold to the gentry the fish she had taken out of their own preserves.

We will now cull a page or two from the six hundred which comprise the volume,—to convey some idea of the contents of its non-historical and gossiping portion. Here are sketches of notable men:—

"Sir William Pynsent was a baronet of Whig principles, who had been a member of the House of Commons in the days of Queen Anne, and had retired to rural privacy when the Tory party, towards the end of her reign, obtained the ascendancy in her councils. His manners were eccentric, his morals lay under suspicions, but his fidelity to his political principles remained unalterable. During fifty years of seclusion he continued to brood over the circumstances which had driven him from public life, the dismissal of the Whigs, the peace of Utrecht, the desertion of our allies. He now thought that he perceived a close analogy between the well-remembered events of his youth and the events which he had witnessed in extreme old age; between the disgrace of Marlborough and the disgrace of Pitt; between the elevation of Harley and the elevation of Bute; between the treaty negotiated by St. John and the treaty negotiated by Bedford; between the wrongs of the house of Austria in 1712, and the wrongs of the house of Brandenburg in 1762. This fancy took such possession of the old man's mind that he determined to leave the bulk of his property to Pitt. In this way Pitt unexpectedly came into possession of nearly 30,000*l*. Nor could all the malice of his enemies find any ground of reproach in the transaction. Nobody could call him a legacy hunter, or accuse him of seizing that to which others had a better claim; for he had never in his life seen Sir William, and Sir William had left no relation so near as to be entitled to form any expectations respecting the estate. Such is Lord Macaulay's version; but the surviving relatives thought differently, and resolved to dispute the validity of the will. The parties who prosecuted the suit were Sir Robert Pynsent, rector of Killmore, cousin or nephew to the deceased, and the successor to the baronetcy, and Henry Daw Tothill, another heir, who claimed by reason of his descent from Grace, the sister of the first baronet, who married William Tothill of Bovey. The inability of the deceased to alienate was the argument principally relied on; and the plea of insanity was also set up. But though eccentricity was proved, as well as a want of family feeling, there

was sufficient evidence of shrewdness, and what some might even think a laudable exhibition of public spirit. Though he had no son to inherit his title, he had several relations in indigence. To three grand-nephews he left one thousand guineas each; to the notorious John Wilkes he left another thousand: all the rest went to William Pitt: and as if in anticipation of the discord to which such a will would give rise, he signed every sheet with his own hand, and caused the whole to be read over in the presence of the subscribing witnesses. The case was finally decided in Pitt's favour, in the Court of Chancery in April 1771. Thus it came to pass in after years that the younger William Pitt so often sought relief from the burden of office by retreating to Burton Pynsent in Somerset, and taking Devizes in his way, where he met Addington and Captain Sutton."

Wolfe was once quartered in the town, and so was a worse soldier but a better scholar:—

"Edward Gibbon was for three years a captain of grenadiers in the South Hants Militia. He observes in his *Diary*, that when himself and his father, with other gentlemen first enrolled themselves in the service, they little thought they should be torn from their farms and profitable occupations, and paraded about the country for so long a period, that 'when the King's order for disbanding them came down, it was too late to retreat and too soon to repent.' Yet amid all the distractions of such a life, he still found time for study. His regiment, it appears, lay at Devizes during the autumn of the year 1761; and the amount of reading which he details, both here and elsewhere, amply accounts for the vast accumulation of materials which characterizes the great work of his after life. Unknown among the artisans of a manufacturing country town, and unnoticed by the neighbouring gentry, his ambitious spirit was silently rearing a fabric of renown such as was never yet achieved by any efforts short of the most unremitting. When making the following entries in his *Journal*, Mr. Gibbon was in his 25th and 26th years. '23 October. We marched to the populous and disorderly town of Devizes. . . . Our first design [on leaving Winchester] was to march through Marlborough; but finding on inquiry that it was a bad road, and a great way about, we resolved to push for the Devizes in one day, though nearly 30 miles. We accordingly arrived there about 3 in the afternoon. . . . Nothing could be more uniform than the life I led there. The little civility of the neighbouring gentlemen gave us no opportunity of dining out; the time of year did not tempt us to any excursions round the country; and, at first my indolence and afterwards a violent cold, prevented my going over to Bath. I believe in the two months, I never dined or lay from quarters. I can, therefore, only set down what I did in the literary way. Designing to recover my Greek, which I had somewhat neglected, I set myself to read Homer, and finished the four first books of the *Iliad*, with Pope's translation and notes. At the same time, to understand the geography of the *Iliad*, and particularly the Catalogue, I read 8th to 14th books of Strabo, in Casaubon's Latin translation; read Hume's *History of England*, to Henry the Seventh, just published: ingenious but superficial; *Journal des Savans*; *Bibliothèque des Sciences*, &c.' Another memorial of his studies at Devizes survives in a long essay or review compiled from Dr. Hurd's *Horace*; and during a month's absence from the place in January, he made collections for a *Life of Sir Walter Raleigh*, a scheme subsequently abandoned."

Here is another literary man, with not much of the hero in him:—

"While resident for awhile at the village of Box in Wiltshire, Coleridge lodged at a grocer's, and discovered one day to his dismay that his room lay over a barrel of gunpowder. Expostulation with the owner of the house not prevailing to remove the dangerous article, Coleridge prepared to remove himself. The servant maid, who had learnt to venerate their eccentric guest, now entreated him to reconsider his determination.—'Do you think, Mary, I can sleep in a place where I am in momentary danger of blowing up?'—'I thought,

Sir,' said Mary, 'that it was the shot and not the powder that hurt people.'—'So should I think, Mary, were I a little bird.'"

One more Worthy with a smaller Worthy in his hand; the former is the Rev. Sir James Stonhouse, who had once been a medical practitioner, and was a pupil of Garrick:—

"Such was the man, who, while riding over the Downs near Lavington Gore, adjoining his own parish, encountered one day the Shepherd David Saunders, and gathered from his lips those lessons of homely wisdom and simple Christianity which the Doctor's friend, Hannah More, afterwards wove into a popular tale of 'The Shepherd of Salisbury Plain,' in which the worthy Doctor figures as 'Mr. Johnson.' Saunders, and his father before him, had kept sheep on the same spot for one hundred years. His cottage, which stood at the head of the lane leading down to Russell Mill in West Lavington, was standing within the last ten years. He died in September 1796, at Wyke, between Bath and Bristol, having for some time before his death become totally blind. He was said to be one of John Wesley's converts. It is quite possible, as King George the Third was a diligent reader of tracts, that admiration for the subject of Hannah More's tale may have had its share in stimulating the desire which his Majesty once expressed to place a Wiltshire shepherd over his flock at Windsor. He is said to have been so struck with the stalwart ruggedness of the race, while passing over Salisbury Plain, that on returning home he directed his farm manager to make choice of an approved specimen and install him at Windsor. Application being made through Mr. Davis of Longlat, Mr. Richard Frowd of Brixton Deverill despatched a man who seemed to promise fairly for the new post of honour. He was met at Windsor by General Goldsworthy, who having been long expecting him, addressed him thus:—'So you are the Wiltshire shepherd come at last. What's your name?'—'Daphney,' said the shepherd.—'I see,' said the General, 'you have acquired a pastoral name since your appointment to be the King's shepherd.'—'I know nothing about pastoral names. My father was John Daphney, and I am Richard Daphney.'—'How do you find the flock?'—'Bad enough,' said Richard.—'And what do you mean to do with them?'—'Cure them, to be sure.'—'Well, when the King comes, speak as freely to him as you have done to me.'—'That I shall, for I thought you were the King.' Daphney for awhile did credit to his origin; but in course of time two sheep being missed from the flock, the charge of corrupt practices was brought home to him with fatal certainty. The King was visibly affected. He immediately resolved on dismissing his *protégé*, but could not be induced to prosecute. 'It was my foolish vanity,' he said, 'that coveted a Wiltshire shepherd, who, coming into the neighbourhood of Old Windsor, was thrown into the way of fellows that would corrupt an angel.'"

The repentant shepherd enlisted, and made a good soldier; and with this testimony to his character, we add that which is due to the industry and zeal of the author of this *History of Devizes*.

Memoir of Constantine Simonides; with a Brief Defence of the Authenticity of his Manuscripts. By Charles Stewart. (Skeet.) *Ορθόδοξον Ἑλληνικὸν Ζητολογικὰν γραφὰν τερσαριε.* (Νύττ.)

Dr. Simonides has passed for an impostor, and his manuscripts for forgeries, in spite of the doubts insinuated about these conclusions by Humboldt. A friend now comes forward in his defence, with a biographical memoir; and four manuscripts are published, *ῥωτικὸν Πάβερτον καὶ Πυθιγγωνος*, which one of our scholars would probably have written *Πυθιγγωνος*. Nothing can be fairer than the challenge. Here are some of the manuscripts, now become printed books; search them, and let their internal evidence speak.

We shall not attempt any critical discussion

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of the question; we shall only repeat, in brief abstract, some of the statement given.

Mr. Stewart attributes the suspicious figure which Dr. Simonides has made to the natural secretiveness of his race, which hides matters that no Englishman would think of concealing. The plea is a fair one; but it has two points of view. Out of secretive nations, on the one hand, come a more than due proportion of impostors; but the honesty of such nations, on the other hand, is secretive as well as its fraud. The manuscripts themselves must decide.

Simonides was born at Hydra, in 1824, of good family; his father now lives in affluence at Rhodes. After studying in various places, and lastly at Athens, he joined Benedict, his mother's brother, at Mount Athos, and under him completed his theological course. Benedict had become possessor of many Greek manuscripts which had suffered from a damp cellar, and also of a large library of printed books. These had all been hidden away from the Turks, and an account is given of the disclosure of the place of concealment by an old monk, in gratitude for the restoration of his monastery at the expense of Benedict. The manuscripts were bequeathed to Simonides by Benedict, who died in 1840. All this, it is affirmed, can be corroborated.

After the death of Benedict, Simonides went to Odessa, with valuable recommendations, and remained there till 1846, when he returned to Athens. Here he engaged in politics, and, of course, offended one party; and here began the report that his manuscripts, 5,000 in number, had been composed by himself. Several were examined by a committee of learned men, and were pronounced by a large majority to be genuine. At this point commences a long history of wanderings in many countries, collections of various treasures, and dealings with learned men in various parts. The tract itself is so much of an abstract, that it cannot be shortened. We do not like to abbreviate accusations against living men, already too short. What we have to do is with the dissemination of the facts that Dr. Simonides, through his friend, gives an account of himself, challenges inquiry into its accuracy, publishes some of his manuscripts for examination, and gives evidence that he is not utterly disclaimed by all persons competent to judge. We have shown what he alleges as to the way in which he got the manuscripts, and we recommend his statements to the examination of those who have the learning and the leisure. Mr. Stewart offers to reply to any inquiry, and to furnish the authority on which any statement is made.

Beginning with an impression against Dr. Simonides, the result of reports from various quarters, we feel bound to say that one of two things must be true: either the manuscripts are genuine, or Dr. Simonides is an impostor whom it will take more to put down than has yet been done. There is a mode of proceeding in the present publications which embraces all that conscious rectitude could suggest. The story itself is by no means unlikely. A learned and affluent Greek is alleged to have procured many manuscripts from Greek monasteries; it is one of the constant traditions of learning that many manuscripts are to be found in such places. These he leaves to his nephew, also a man of learning, which he must be, and all the more certainly if he be the forger of such works as those before us. After many attempts to dispose of these manuscripts, marked by what his defenders admit is the secretiveness of his race, and after encountering much reproach, he publishes an account of his own life, backed by the production in print of some peculiarly Greek theological manuscripts. It is now for

those who care to examine his assertions; the means are in their power.

Women Artists in All Ages and Countries. By Mrs. E. F. Ellet. (Bentley.)

LET a subject seem popular, and immediately we have the universal book about it. A dagger-stroke is aimed at a king; forthwith, assassins of all ages and countries are recorded in a facile epitome. The Big Ship goes down to the sea; at once our compiler is at the Ark on Ararat. A youthful prodigy appears; in a twinkling every marvellous boy and girl, from the earliest period to the present time, is cited to figure in a timely volume. Nothing is easier, or, in general, more unsatisfactory, than this summarizing, significant of a few visits to a public library, the ransacking of one or more bibliographies, with a vague amount of raw reading and discursive transcript. Mrs. Ellet, in floating down the current which has set in from the intellect-of-women point of view, and in joining those who appear readier to talk than to act, is purely and simply a collector and assorter of rough materials. Her notices are scarcely at all critical; they run through the centuries, between long piles of local and ephemeral reputations, with now and then a bright name upon the roll, and the female artists in the category are presented, with rare exceptions, upon one level of frigid and formal excellence. It is not, then, as an aid to the historical study of Art that her book can pretend to be important; it is too jejune, too conventional, too monotonous for that; but it is readable as a series of biographies, interspersed with descriptive passages, constituting a bird's-eye view of the groups of women who, in one epoch or another, have distinguished themselves as sculptors, painters, modellers, engravers, and carvers in wood or ivory, or even as ornamental mechanicians. The tale is a long one, and some of the episodes are not a little interesting, though most special readers will have familiarized themselves with them in the works of Vasari, Fiorillo and Descampes, with Guhl and others not less obvious. Indeed, it is upon Guhl that Mrs. Ellet has chiefly based her labours, her contemporary sketches being appropriated, for the most part, from the columns of a popular miscellany. As altogether free from pretence, if somewhat floridly written in parts, the volume may be characterized as one of merit and of pleasant utility.

We must, perforce, in a perspective of "all ages and all countries" open the coffins of the Nile, examine the palaces of the Pharaohs, explore the caverns of the great hierarchy. We must see the brow of Egypt bent over artistic embroidery; we must mark the graceful woman-wrought draperies of Nineveh and Babylon; we must acknowledge that the weavers of lustrous shawls in the East were fit for more than a pagan paradise. Then, rising to the divine arts, we walk in Greece with Sappho, and, immediately, there appears in Corinth the cunning-handed Callirrhoe. With her is Timarata, who painted the beauty of Diana, and so on, to that Roman history which unveils the solitary figure of Laya, who knew how to make the beauties of her nation blush in reflex from ivory. Then passed away the glory of the world, and the nimble hands forgot their cunning. We hear of the semi-mythical Analsuntha, architect to the great Theodoric; Theudelinda the Longobard, who adorned her palace with national cartoons, and others; but they are ladies of the mist. Afterwards, a thousand delicate fingers were employed upon illuminations; female miniaturists and cali-

graphists laboured in and out of convents; red, blue, gold and silver arabesques and initials glittered in their endless variegation; and, ere the fifteenth century began, Sabina Von Steinbach, with her bold chisel, glorified her father's work of wonder, the Cathedral of Strasburg. From the close of the fifteenth century the procession of feminine artists is dense and continuous: Onorata Rodiana standing on the threshold of the dark ages, one hand holding the pencil which decorated the Palace of Cremona, the other the poniard with which she stabbed the courtier who interrupted her at her task. She died fighting, at the siege of Castelleone, in 1472. That was a proper Amazon.

The Crucifixion carved upon a peach-stone, and seventy heads of saints carved on a cherry-stone, were the earlier works of Properzia di Rossi, who ennobled with broad bas-reliefs the façade of San Petronio, in Bologna. Next, was Irene di Spilimberg, painted by Titian, and praised by Tasso; then, the daughter of Tintoretto; afterwards come the six brilliant sisters Anguisciola: Helena, Sofonisba, Minerva, Europa, Lucia and Anna Maria,—Sofonisba being the star of the family. Mrs. Ellet's account of this celebrated woman, although meagre, is neatly put together. Some years elapsing, we encounter the awful shade of a being, Beatrice Pappafava, who celebrated her own hundredth birthday "in an original sonnet of much merit"! The seventeenth century presents a number of attractive groups. Aniella di Rosa, of Naples, was the heroine of a tragic romance, being struck dead by her husband, in a paroxysm of jealousy, in her thirty-sixth year. Mrs. Ellet somewhat unnecessarily and incomprehensibly remarks, "She was not the only victim to the taste for the horrible and for wild extremes of passion then prevailing in the works of artists, and too common in their personal experience." Elizabeth Sophie Chéron was a heroine in another way; at sixty years "she fascinated the affections of Sieur Le Hay, a gentleman about her own age, on whom she bestowed her hand, simply with the generous motive, it was said, of promoting his good fortune." Be it not forgotten, when artistic heroines are upon the carpet, that Madame de Pompadour engraved and executed small plates after Boucher and others—one set, of sixty-three, after the choicest of Gay. We shall find high aspiration among the Dutch women of the same era, if we look for it. While others painted boars, pickles, beer, and fish, and animal viscera, Margareta Wulfrat laboured at ideal portraits of Cleopatra and Semiramis; many of her countrywomen received costly rewards from princes. Maria Van Oosterwyck, who, though not successful as Rachel Ruysch, was in her day the cynosure; the Fourteenth Louis, the Emperor Leopold, and William the Third of England, sought her works for their galleries. Rachel Ruysch, it will be remembered, was the veteran who continued to labour at her easel when nearly arrived at a second climacteric of life.

To exemplify Mrs. Ellet's manner of setting forth these details, we cite her notice of 'The Artist of the Scissors':—

"Joanna Koerten Block is regarded by the Dutch as one of their most remarkable female artists. She was born in Amsterdam in 1650, and manifested a taste for the fine arts in her childhood. She learned music and embroidery, and the art of modelling fruits and figures; she also understood colouring, and engraved with a diamond on crystal and glass with surprising delicacy. Add to this, that she painted in oil and water colours in a novel manner. Possessing a rare art in blending colours, she copied pictures so wonderfully that they could scarcely be distinguished from the originals. This faculty of imitation she carried to such perfection, that it was believed among her contemporaries

that, had she devoted herself exclusively to this kind of work, she would have equalled the great masters. She gave up, after a time, the cultivation of this singular talent, however, for the development of another still more extraordinary, for which she has obtained a place among the great artists of her country. All that the engraver accomplishes with the burin, she was able to execute with the scissors. Her cuttings were indeed astonishing. Country scenes, marine views, animals, flowers, with portraits of perfect resemblance, she executed in a marvellous manner. This novel style of making pictures out of white paper created not a little sensation, and soon the matter became known abroad widely, and excited the curiosity of all the courts of Europe. Even artists could not help admiring her skill in this strange art, not one of them coming to Amsterdam without paying her a visit. The Czar Peter the Great, princes of royal blood, and nobles of the highest rank, paid their respects to the simple Dutch maiden, and examined her works with pleased curiosity. The Elector Palatine offered a thousand florins for three small pieces cut by her, but the offer was declined as not liberal enough. The Empress of Germany ordered a piece executed as a trophy of the arms of the Emperor Leopold I. The design showed the crown and Imperial arms upheld by eagles, and surrounded by laurel wreaths, garlands of flowers, and appropriate ornaments. This was executed in a wonderful manner, and for it the fair artist received four thousand florins. The portrait of the Emperor, cut by Joanna, is preserved in his Imperial Majesty's cabinet at Vienna. Queen Mary of England, and other royal personages, wished to decorate their cabinets with the works of this artist. She cut many portraits, with which the sitters were both pleased and astonished. The Latin, German, and Dutch verses composed in her honour would fill a volume. She had in her working room a volume, in which was registered the names of her illustrious visitors, the princes and princesses and other great personages writing their own. It is the same curious register in which Nicholas Verkalie saw the portraits of illustrious persons, appended each to the proper signature. This interesting addition is said to have been made by Adrien Block, the artist's husband. He published a series of vignettes from her pieces. * * Her portrait, coarsely engraved, is published by Descampes. She had a noble style of face, with strongly marked features. The hair is dressed in a point in front; the neckerchief and dress are worn in antiquated style."

The well-known romance of Angelica Kauffman's career is dwelt upon with infinite sympathy. Some elaboration is devoted to Maria Cosway; but we are slightly startled to encounter next to the fashionable painter of Pall Mall "Madame Tussaud." This "artist"—save the mark!—first opened her collection in Paris, we are told, in 1770:—

"Though consisting then chiefly of busts, with a few full-length figures, it attracted much attention as a novelty; and Louis XVI. was wont to amuse himself by placing living figures, dressed up, among the wax ones. In 1802, Madame Tussaud opened her exhibition in London; and afterwards visited all the large towns in Great Britain. Her rooms were large and splendidly decorated, and her figures were magnificently dressed—some in their own royal robes, with crowns, stars, orders, and regal finery."

One of Mrs. Ellet's liveliest chapters refers to the feminine Art of France in the eighteenth century. All that refers to "pearl-bright" Le Brun is familiar, but a good deal of material is here brought together lightly. This is how she commemorates the *allegro* of the Le Brun mansion in days when Paris began to feel the bite of jealousy, the gall of the Revolution mounting to her heart:—

"Music was generally a part of the entertainment, and the fair hostess, though she had paid little attention to the superior cultivation of that art, sang most charmingly. Grétry, Sacchini and

Martini here rehearsed scenes from the new operas before their representation; Garat, Azevedo, Richer, and Madame Le Brun supplied the vocal music, while the instrumental would be furnished by Viotti, Jarnowich, Maestrina, Cramer, Hülmmandel, and Prince Henry of Prussia, brother to Frederick William the Third. He was said to be a celebrated amateur. The *petits soupers* which usually terminated these delightful *soirées*, and to which only a few favoured subjects were invited, became renowned throughout France. They were said to be brilliant in Attic elegance and Parisian luxury. The popular Delille, the piquant author *Lé Brun*, who first flattered the royal family and then became the Pindar of the Revolution; the luxurious Bouffiers, the Vicomte de Segur, were among the frequenters of this sanctuary of the Muses and the Graces. The suppers, indeed, had a European celebrity. One day when the brother of Madame Le Brun read aloud from the *Travels of Anacharsis* a description of an ancient Grecian banquet, the fancy came into the lady's head of arranging one of her suppers in imitation of the feasts of the luxurious Aspasia. The cook was immediately furnished with receipts for Greek sauces; the 'little' supper-room was changed into a classic banqueting-hall, and a table made according to the antique fashion was set in the middle of the room, surrounded with Grecian draped couches. A request was sent to the Comte de Pezay, who lived in the same building, for an antique mantle of regal purple, while the Marquis de Cubières supplied a golden lyre, on which he was skilled in playing. Le Brun, not the husband, but the poet, was arrayed by the fair hands of the artists—whose taste in picturesque costume none could question—in the purple robe and a classic wig, adorned with a laurel wreath. He was thus fitted to bear his part as Pindar or Anacreon! Some young ladies, noted for their beauty, were dressed in Greek tunics, with classic coiffures, to figure as Athenian maidens; while the gentlemen guests underwent a corresponding transformation. Those favoured with invitations to this select entertainment took their places to the music of the golden lyre, and the classic air composed by Gluck,

Le Dieu de Paphos et de Cnide,

while the Pindar of the evening sang Anacreontic odes. Among the delicacies which covered the board were eels and birds dressed with Greek sauces and garnished with honey-cakes; figs, and olives, and grapes of Corinth. Two beautiful slaves, Mademoiselle de Bonneuil and Mademoiselle Le Brun, served the guests with Cyprian wine, in cups brought from Herculaneum. Two guests arrived late, the Comte de Vaudreuil and the financier Boutin, who had not been prepared for the surprise. They stood still, dumb with amazement, at the threshold, and seem to think themselves transported to Athens in her day of intellectual glory! The next day the classic banquet given by Madame Le Brun was the talk of all Paris. She was entreated to repeat the entertainment, but with proper tact declined. Some of her acquaintances took offence at the refusal and at their own exclusion, and revenged the slight (as she says) by slandering her to the King. It was averred the supper cost twenty thousand francs, and Cubières had much ado to undeceive his Majesty. The story and the fame of the banquet travelled over the Continent. By the time it had reached Rome the cost had swelled to forty thousand; and in Vienna, the Baroness Strogonoff assured Madame Le Brun, it was reported she had spent sixty thousand. In St. Petersburg it was naturally as much as eighty thousand. 'The fact is,' says Madame Le Brun, 'the little affair cost me only fifteen francs.' She may be relied on as to her share of the expense, although the cost to others may have been greater."

We have said and quoted enough to exhibit Mrs. Ellet fairly in her character as an epitomist of Art-history, in so far as it concerns women "in all ages and countries." The book is irregular, and often tedious: it is written in the style of flaccid facility inveterate among compilers; still, it may have its hour of welcome.

NEW NOVELS.

Liberty Hall, Oxon. By W. Winwood Reade. 3 vols. (Skeet.)—From the Conservative Club Mr. William Winwood Reade has dedicated this story to his uncle, Mr. Charles Reade, the author of 'It is Never too Late to Mend.' His uncle and his club have reason to be proud of their connexion with him. Notwithstanding the nausea we have experienced during the perusal of his volumes, we will be brief in our remarks upon them, and not unnecessarily prolong the punishment of the foolish boy who has hurt himself for life by writing and publishing them. Of all the spurious descriptions of Oxford life that have during the last thirty years emanated from the pens of spurious University men, and come under our notice, Mr. William Winwood Reade's sketches are the most objectionable. Everywhere they are dull and false, and in numerous places they are marked by an obscenity which will make any gentleman who may unwarily take them up, fling them away in disgust. It is due to Oxford to state, that the only mention made of Mr. Reade's name in the University Calendar is where a place is assigned him amongst the undergraduates of Magdalen Hall, for the year 1857, after which date there is a significant absence of his name from the list of members. Oxford had its faults when we were there; doubtless it has its faults still, but it must have lamentably deteriorated in tone, if any undergraduate could say what Mr. Reade has written, and not be avoided as a disgrace to his fraternity. Indeed, there is only one term that can fully designate the author of 'Liberty Hall,' and if on the present occasion we refrain from using it we do so out of respect to the usages of criticism. If Mr. Reade paints a college breakfast—not amongst the outcasts and contemned hangers-on upon University life, but the members of "good sets"—the reader is told that Oxford men at such a repast sit round the table like *swine round a trough*, "with crunching jaws and bent heads gorging and stupefying themselves with rich, ill-cooked food, which they wash down with draughts of heavy beer." Of the college tutors, one of the heroes of the tale speaks in the following elegant and discerning manner:—"If there is anything which I can at the same time hate and despise, it is an Oxford don; I despise him as a mean, crawling worm compared with the rest of mankind; I hate him as a poisoned, hissing serpent, in whose power so many destinies are thrown. Go to their common rooms, and hear them talk after dinner, where they eat like swine; hear their rapid sentiments, their imbecile remarks; look at their faces, bloated and sensual, or see them in their lecture-rooms, ignorant, stupid, cowardly and brutal; put yourselves in their power, and pray to their cold, bare hearts for pity and forgiveness!" Surely Mr. Winwood Reade must have at some period of his life prayed in vain to these "cold, bare hearts!" But it is not in University life alone that he displays a familiar acquaintance with men and manners. He takes us down from Oxford to the country-house of Richard Saxon, Esq., of Blakey's, Deputy-Lieutenant and Justice of the Peace. The lady of the mansion is delicately introduced as one who "dozed herself divinely with castor-oil till it turned her into a peevish invalid." The country gentlemen are represented as being on intimate visiting terms with the farmer, miller and other tradesmen of the district. And the bells of the neighbourhood—a lovely creature, who garnishes her sentences with unchaste allusions, smokes cigars, and horsewhips an offending gentleman, so that she cuts "his coat into rags in three minutes,"—indulges in the following *badinage* with Edward Saxon, the principal character of the tale, and (although he is *unjustly* plucked for his Little-go) the perfection of "a thorough-bred Oxford man."—"Why doesn't she open her mouth in company, then?" asked Edward.—"Because she has bad teeth," answered Lucy Leddiard.—"Fah!—What is your opinion of Miss Clements?"—"She looks well; knows how to make the most of herself." * * * "She does something better than that," returned Lucy.—"What may that be?"—"Perhaps you will disbelieve me, I should not like to be suspected of telling an untruth."

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—'I will believe it.'—'She is troubled with pimples on her nose.'—'I can't see them.'—'And she puts her feet in boiling water every night to keep them away.'—'Now I admire her all the more for that.' So that no reader may remain in doubt as to what is the term we have refrained from applying to this nasty book, let us conclude with two more touches. Mr. W. W. Reade speaks of the habits of Magdalen College, of which Mr. Charles Reade is a member, thus:—"It was Christmas morning. The Rev. Gilbert Saxon, who was of the true Oxford persuasion, was celebrating its advent in a gin-carousal with his friends." And now for our last specimen. Be it known that some few years ago an Oxford student, of great and abused powers, had in consequence of pecuniary difficulty not only to quit the University, but the country. Not long since we heard that this unfortunate young man was making resolute and laudable efforts to right himself and recover his lost position. What does Mr. Winwood Reade do? He not only rakes up this old trouble to spice one of his pages with, but prints the name and hall of "the poor fellow!" for whom he professes a warm admiration.

The Way of the World: a Novel. 3 vols. By Alison Reid. (Hurst & Blackett.)—We once heard a worthy clergyman denounce from the pulpit the reading of "light, frothy novels." We begin to think that type of literature must belong to an extinct order. We never meet with "light novels" now. They are about the heaviest reading going. We never meet with any fun. It is rare indeed to get hold of a book that makes you laugh. Novels grow more flat every day. Women take to writing novels as they have hitherto taken to becoming governesses—for the sake of doing something not derogatory to their gentility, although they may not possess one honest qualification for the task. They write out of the depths of mediocrity—the result is, that the quality of literature is depreciated, the authors are not benefited, for their pay is small. Bad work can never command a good price, and to do bad work is morally hurtful to whomever does it, both in act and deed. Although we might, without any great infringement on our sincerity, pay a good-natured "compliment, politely penned," to the author of 'The Way of the World,' we refrain, because the stern fact would remain, that the novel, taken as a whole, is worth very little. It is not an amusing book—it is not by any means an original book. The authoress (for a woman's hand is patent) having read a good deal of second-rate literature has apparently said to herself, "I could do almost as well myself"—and she has gone and done so accordingly! There are traces of care and painstaking in the work, but no mortal will care for the result they have produced. Miss Alice Hope and her numerous "offers,"—her lovers and her "losses" neither "point a moral nor adorn a tale," for 'The Way of the World' is both egotistic, dull and flimsy. We should rejoice greatly if by any effort of plain speaking we could stop the supply of superfluous novels.

Now or Never: a Novel. By M. Betham Edwards. (Edinburgh, Edmonstone & Douglas.)—There is talent of a scattered, incoherent sort, here and there, in this volume, but it is not woven into a sustained form. The story is foolish, the incidents are hysterical, and there is no ending to the book. It is difficult to read it through, and it is unsatisfactory to look on further, for the reason that there is no legitimate winding up of affairs. Miss Edwards might do something better if she took time and pains,—but there would be no irreparable loss to the world if she abstained from writing books henceforth and for ever. We are patient and much-enduring readers,—we can stand phrases in polyglott when they come in the reasonable shape of dialects that most educated Christians may charitably be supposed to know something about. But what lady-reader can be expected to see into the meaning of—"Tak! skad jestes Ludwico co do kata tutaj rotusz." 'Now or Never' belongs, we are sorry to say, to the numerous tribe of modern novels which it is waste of good time to read, and a more than questionable investment of it to write.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Harry Hartley; or, Social Science for the Workers. By J. W. Overton. (Lea.)—The object of this work is stated in the preface:—"As an English workman I have seen with feelings of mingled gratitude and pain the many efforts which are being made for the moral and intellectual improvement of the class to which I belong. The motives which actuate our would-be benefactors I know to be excellent and above all praise; but their mode of application in most instances I hold to be the development of a great mistake. I have ever held that the workers as a class must elevate themselves, and that our real true and good friends of the middle class must cease to look upon us as automata, to which they have to give life as well as motion: rather let them look upon us as the great misdirected power we really are." * * An earnest wish to assist in the accomplishment of this object induced me to devote my leisure to the production of this work, in which I have endeavoured to show the real condition of the skilled artisans of England." As a picture of the *fast life* of the working classes, the book is so far interesting as it reveals the charms and temptations which theatricals have for them. Those who desire to hear about the dramas, the actors and the actresses most popular at the "Gaiety" may find them described here, not by a condescending visitor, who comes to report what he sees, like a traveller in a foreign land, but spoken of lovingly and respectfully, and the importance given to all concerned which they have in their own meridian. The flavour of the story is stronger and coarser than will be pleasant to general readers, though it must strike every one that "fast life" in St. Giles's and "dissipation" in St. James's are wonderfully alike both in principle and practice. But the Author of 'Harry Hartley' does not carry out the aim announced in the preface; there is no evidence of insight into the social tastes and habits of the cultivated, well-read artisan. We do not feel disposed to accept the Author of 'Harry Hartley' as their exponent. According to him, they make precisely the same objections to become "marrying men" as those in a class above them; and Harry's fastidious disgust at the swarms of children sitting on door-steps and playing in the street would be the echo of the reflections of the elegant dandy lounging at his club; and meditating on the fascinations of some fair Anna Maria which have perilled his prudence and peace of mind. On the difficult topic of "social evil" the author is cynical; but Harry Hartley is not a type of the working men of England. The one practical observation that suggested itself after closing the book was, that if theatrical amusements really exercise so strong a charm over the working classes as is here asserted, philanthropic members of the Social Science Association would do well to see if the stage cannot be made to do good service in the work of social improvement and moral progress. A strong taste is an engine that may be turned to great good or great evil.

The Crusades and Crusaders; or, Stories of the Struggle for the Holy Sepulchre. By John G. Edgar. With Eight Illustrations by Julian Portch. (Kent & Co.)—These stories, for the pleasure and profit of young readers, are told with spirit; and are not more romantically coloured than historical authenticity justifies. It would be impossible perhaps to exaggerate the adventures of that blind chivalry which wasted the best blood of Europe on the fields of Palestine, in fulfilment of a ragged preacher's prophecy. Mr. Edgar's narrative has been illustrated by eight admirable sketches, from the pencil of Mr. Julian Portch, whose delineations of the Crusaders—crowned, girdled and shielded men, all Lion-hearted—will make the boy's heart throb, and impel him to learn, from this Christmas volume, how the knights went to battle and clove Saracen helms by the thousand.

The Boy-Tar; or, a Voyage in the Dark. By Capt. Mayne Reid. With Twelve Illustrations, by Charles S. Keene. (Kent & Co.)—Here is the old story for boys, told in a new way. It is the brave little lad who must go to sea, and will go, notwithstanding that rough men laugh at him. How to manage it is the problem. Capt. Mayne

Reid—a ready inventor for juvenile imaginations—sends his hero down in the hull, and he sails to Peru in the dark, tapping water-casks, eating flour, and ultimately climbing up to the decks as the voyage draws to a close; when, of course, he triumphs, and is admitted into the ranks of seaman-ship. The narrative is well managed, and the illustrations are good; except that the boy-tar seems to vary in age, being older when he first appears than when he gropes his way to light from the depths of the hold.

Biography of Louis van Beethoven.—[Biographie, &c.] By Anton Schindler. (Münster, Aschen-dorff; London, Williams & Norgate.)—The circumstance of this book being a third edition exempts it from any detailed criticism, though Herr Schindler has remodelled his material so as to produce an almost entirely new work. The stuff and colours of it, so to say, remain; and the rugged, magnificent poet-hermit of Vienna, with all his hopes and fears, his passions and his trials, is brought no nearer to us than formerly. That there is something of the jealousy of a proprietor, as well as of the formality of a pedant, in Herr Schindler when Beethoven is the theme, every European musician is aware. Better than any one else (he supposes) does he understand the master's musical intentions—more intimately than any one else can he penetrate the deep and discordant peculiarities of the man's character. —But panegyric in this, as in other cases, defeats its own object. Heroism and poetry do not change their being, from black to white, because a man is a hero and a poet. Every attempt to prove such change tends to stir a spirit of analysis, cross-examination—to give severity to judgment in place of enlarging its charity. The rapturists, such as MM. Lenz, Berlioz, Liszt, who will go to any length in commending the flaws of Beethoven's less perfect compositions, are accountable in part for the searching distaste which these flaws excite; and if the picture of the man rises before us as one suspicious, violent, disorderly, having been born with noble instincts and generous affections, it is mainly because too much stress has been laid on circumstance, and too little on the amount of arrogance, self-will, and rebellion, which went to the making-up of his personality. That Beethoven was upborne by friends from the cradle to the grave has nothing to do with the argument. Love is bred by fascination, does not measure itself by esteem, and will love on, whatever be the ingratitude, misunderstanding—must we say, turpitude—it may have to encounter. Genius is oftentimes not so fatal to its possessors as to those whom it attracts to the foot of its pedestal. But this unpopular view of the subject need not again be here insisted on.

Timon, and other Poems; also, the Compact, a Drama, &c. By J. H. Powell. (Piper & Co.)—Mr. Powell is protected by a good subscription list, therefore we are not afraid to say that his 'Timon' of Brighton is not altogether a 'Timon of Athens,'—and as little another "New Timon," such as the one with whose anonymous parentage Sir E. Lytton so notably mystified those who were willing to be mystified.—'The Compact, a Drama,' has hardly our "concurrence," as the Germans phrase it. There is a queer goblin tale at the end of the volume—'The Lenden Figure'—which, though not good, to speak gently, shows a true taste for the supernatural; as the supernatural was, ere unquiet spirits got into mahogany, and the "dear defunct" rapped out moral and loving sentences from the back of the chair on which his relict sits in her weeds planning a second marriage.

The Devil's Triumph: a Satire, and other Poems. By Capt. R. Compton Noake. (Simpkin, Marshall & Co.)—There is satire, we suppose, here. We are willing to believe that Capt. Noake means, with the earnest purpose of a true man, to pluck the sleek mask from off the ugly face of Hypocrisy and to vindicate the cause of the desolate and oppressed. But such merit as may be found in this volume is confined to its intention: The working out is dreary and feeble.

The Law relating to the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages, the Duties of the Registration Officers, and the Marriage of Dissenters in

England; with Notes and Cases. By W. Cunningham Glen, Barrister. (Knight & Co.)—This is a handbook in which the statutes relating to the subjects named in the title are collected, and the amendments which have been made, and the points which have been decided upon the statutes, are shortly stated in the notes. The Acts which either wholly or in part relate to these matters are about twenty-three in number. The statutes are worded with the usual perspicuity; and Parliament has, with its accustomed pleasantness, inserted some of the provisions in places where the unparliamentary mind would hardly expect to find them. We need not further enforce the utility of such a book.

David, King of Israel, Readings for the Young, by Josiah Wright, M.A. (Macmillan & Co.), belongs to a class of educational works mentioned last week—neither sermon nor story. We cannot think the attempt a happy one which obliges him who makes it to narrate in his own words that which has already been narrated in the language of Holy Writ.—*Little Estella, and other Fairy Tales for the Young* (same publishers) is a collection of five rather elegant stories, with here and there just a touch too much of grown-up romance. But what is harder to write than a good, real, credulous, unconscious fairy-tale?—*The Compliments of the Season, &c.*, by Mrs. Gordon Smythies (J. Blackwood), is a tiny book by a lady so happy in herself that to fall in with the genial humour of the week we will not disturb her dream.—*Thoughts for the Thoughtless; or, Inducements for Scientific Inquiry*, by Mrs. C. H. Smith (same publishers), is a little book of useful knowledge nicely conveyed; above the average.

Some few books of rhyme may be enumerated in company—the first, deserving a better name, being *The Combat of the Thirty, from a Breton Lay in the Fourteenth Century, with an Introduction, comprising a New Chapter of Froissart*, by William Harrison Ainsworth (Chapman & Hall), a spirited old ballad rendered in the style which made the lyrics in 'Crichton' popular.—*St. Katharine of Alexandria, a Dramatic Legend*, by "Noel Radcliffe" (Saunders, Otley & Co.), announces itself as a martyr's drama; but it will not put out of our memory Mr. Kingsley's 'Saint Elizabeth,' still less 'The Martyr of Antioch,' by Dr. Milman: the very mysticism of the subject which may have attracted its author renders it, we think, comparatively ineligible for treatment in the form suggested. Nor has he the poetical power on which alone can a five-act drama in blank verse be sustained.—*Fragments of the Table Round* (Murray & Son, Glasgow) are a series of ballads of King Arthur's time; two of which have appeared before. The book is superbly printed.—*The Boyne Book of Poetry and Song*, edited by William Johnston, M.A. (Downpatrick, Protestant Office), is a collection of bitter Orange songs, intended to keep alive party spirit in Ireland.—*Magdalene: a Poem* (Smith, Elder & Co.), published in aid of the funds of the Magdalen Asylum, contains scattered verses on different episodes connected with the one and subject of frailty in women,—among others, a willow lyric concerning the opera of 'La Traviata,' the sentimentality of which almost justifies suspicion of the author's sincerity.—*Thoughts in Prose and Verse*, by Reuben Young, from the Nottingham Press (Renals), are hardly among "the thoughts which create thoughts."

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

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FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Florence, Dec. 16, 1859.

ONE of the most fruitful sources of that strong sympathy which is just now manifested by all classes in England for the fortunes of Central Italy, is the newly proclaimed liberty of conscience, which has been so eagerly received by the daily-increasing congregation of the Italian Evangelical Church, both here and in the Romagna. The spread of its doctrines has, of course, occasioned paroxysms of impotent rage among the "blacks," as the Jesuit party are familiarly called; and they leave no stone unturned, were it as ponderous as those of Stonehenge, to throw disrepute on the peaceful opponents whose antagonism, they instinctively feel, will work them more ultimate woe than Zouave bayonets and rifled cannon. In a former letter I spoke of the growing importance of this religious sect, which had its Sunday services and week-day evening *scuola*—or school of Gospel instruction—in a spacious room on the ground-floor in the Piazza della Indipendenza.

So strongly sets the tide of popular feeling towards this reformed faith, that last Saturday evening, after the room itself—which may hold some three or four hundred persons—was crammed to the very doors, most of those present having only standing-room, a crowd of not less than five hundred more, who could not find places within, remained clustered outside in the Piazza. It was a matter of no small anxiety, however, to those who watched the progress of the sect with interest and hearty goodwill, to see on that Saturday evening a party of soldiers posted, without any apparent reason, in a dark corner of the square while the *scuola* was going on, as if biding their time for making a descent upon some unsuspecting misdoer, and to hear their hurried tramp along the frosty pavement past the widows about nine o'clock, in the direction of the spot where the congregation was just issuing into the bright moonlight. More ominous still was the fact that, on Sunday and Tuesday evenings, the doors of the

meeting-house remained closed; and in the course of a few hours it began to be rumoured that the Archbishop had interdicted all such assemblies. Some more hopeful gossips, indeed, surmised that the preacher (the eloquent and enthusiastic *avvocato* Mazzarella) had fallen ill; but this reason was evidently insufficient to account for the state of things, seeing that a temporary *locum tenens* might easily have been found for him.

There was, in truth, good reason for anxiety; for the priests have of late been waxing hotter and hotter in wrath as they have seen whole families of respectable artizans, Bible in hand, trooping to the evening lecture after working hours, and knew that hundreds of the working class who but a few months back had no more spiritual or distinct religious faith than consisted in a ten-times-repeated prayer, muttered spell-fashion, in an unknown tongue, or the offering of a *lira's* worth of wax-candle to the Madonna as a sacrifice for sin, were now, evening after evening, earnestly and keenly discussing the vital questions of a holier creed, in open defiance of their authority. The priest party, indeed, and their obedient sons, the *codini*, have spared no pains to spread reports, nay, and support them in some cases by the personal testimony of sundry of their *dime dannate*, to the effect that the lecture-goers were paid for their attendance at the generous rate of three paus a head per evening (about one and fourpence English). But they forgot that all the world knows the poverty of the congregation to be such that they find considerable difficulty even in scraping together the rent required for their place of worship, and would be totally unable to bribe the worshippers into the bargain.

The real circumstances attending the closing of the meeting-house, however, seem to have been quite different from those circulated by the *codini*. I learn from excellent authority, that the Government had information of an intention on the part of the priests to excite disturbances, by sending their emissaries to banter and insult the congregation as they were leaving the *scuola*. Soldiers were therefore posted in the neighbourhood to keep order in case of any hot blood being roused; and the Government subsequently sent a most courteous and reasonable request to the leading members of the sect, that considering the need for perfect order and tranquillity which exists at this most critical moment in Tuscany, they would for a time remove their place of worship to some less public situation, and into a *locale* which shall not be on the ground-floor, where the plans of priestly "agitation" are most easy of execution, in order that no pretext may be given for the anarchy cry which it is the darling aim of the retrograde party to raise on the faintest shadow of disturbance. The best proof that such was really the tone of the request made by the Government is, that the influential members of the congregation perfectly concur in its reasonableness, and, as I can vouch, are now seeking a place of worship which may fulfil the required conditions. Not contented, however, even with this explanation, I have to-day had personal communication on the subject with our Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs, and have received from him the most positive assurance that the Archbishop neither did, nor could do, anything in the matter; and that "as long as he (Cavaliere Salvagnoli) fills his present office, entire liberty of conscience and of creed shall subsist in Tuscany." It is well that the truth of this matter should be known, for doubtless the false report which deceived so many here will find its way into the English papers. And here, by the way, I cannot refrain from rectifying an error into which the *Times* Correspondent from Florence seems, unaccountably enough, to have fallen with regard to the restorations now going on at the Bargello and others of our noble old public buildings, which, like all the embellishments of the city, he represents as being paid for, most unjustly, out of the general taxes of the country; and refers to the Bargello improvements and the new front of Santa Croce as having been begun by the late Grand-Ducal Government. Now, it is the office of the *Gonfaloniere* and the *Comunità* (the Mayor and Corporation) of Florence to plan and carry out the improvements and embellishments of the city, with which the Government have nothing what-

ever to taxes on new from by the a munificence that the each poi the intrin nothing. Tuscan thought proaching pulse. have been entirety, dition to Governm Professors Civil Law the incen among the the dang tant city and under This se and recla the other re-inaug a great n the docum nantly pr earnestly himself, Ducal re in a colle when hid among the the munic An Ag establish and agric coming sp the resour The orga goes on in is to be Prof. Giu striving a and socie Congress on the c Must it a the show say no me while Eng head, bid faces whi the feath surely ve Catholic the incoat of the Pr of State E which is r nese jour I have and m which acc Laytacio The hono excellen perhaps t panionship Angelo in time glory, generous p original in family cha national c eloquent n noem. Ev thronged it passed f our Nation den-pote) L le mani a popolo to v on behalf people wil

ever to do; and the funds are raised by special taxes on the householders of the city. As to the new front of Santa Croce, its cost will be defrayed by the ample revenues of the Convent, assisted by munificent private donations. It is really strange that the "dwellers in the land" should fall into such point-blank mistakes in matters with which the intricacies of diplomatic policy have assuredly nothing to do.

Tuscany keeps a brave heart; although the thought of what may be the result of the approaching Congress can hardly fail to quicken her pulse. The two Universities of Pisa and Siena have been lately re-inaugurated in their original entirety, and not in the miserably divided condition to which they were reduced by the late Government, which expressly transplanted several Professors' Chairs from Pisa to Siena—that of Civil Law, for instance—in order to scatter abroad the incendiary propensities supposed to be at work among the collegians, and particularly to remove the dangerous class of law-students to a more distant city, where they would be more easily isolated and under Government control.

This separation was the cause of great discontent and reclamation from the University of Pisa; and the other day, on occasion of the solemn festival of re-inauguration, in which most of the Ministry and a great number of distinguished persons took part, the documents, in which the University had indignantly protested against this dismemberment, and earnestly appealed against it to the Grand-Duke himself, together with the Ministerial and Grand-Ducal refusals of their petition, were republished in a collective form, and (for this truly is the time when hidden things are brought to light) circulated among the guests at the grand banquet given by the municipality of Pisa.

An Agricultural Institute has also been lately established at the Cascine Palace, with lectures and agricultural shows to be held there in the coming spring, giving promise of improvement to the resources of this beautiful and fertile land. The organization of the Academy of Fine Arts goes on busily, and the first course of lectures is to be given about the middle of January, by Prof. Giudici. And what is to become of all this striving after a wiser and nobler form of political and social existence if, as many predict, the Congress should send us back "*il Figlio*,"—borne on the crossed bayonets of Croat and Zouave? Must it all be trampled out and cloaked over with the show of a general amnesty, and a promise "to say no more about it" for the present? Surely not, while England takes our part, and puts us on the head, bidding us not be scared at the frightful faces which Antonelli is making at us from behind the feather fans. *Apologos* of Antonelli, it were surely well that the enthusiastic and voluble Irish Catholic bishops should deign to cast an eye over the incontrovertible testimony to the real condition of the Papal dominions, contained in that series of State Papers of the late Pontifical Government, which is now daily being published in the Bolognese journals.

I have but this moment returned from a solemn and most moving sight—the funeral procession which accompanied the remains of the Marchese Layatico to their last resting-place in Santa Croce. The honour thus bestowed on the memory of this excellent man and nobly deserving citizen, may perhaps to some appear excessive, but the companionship in death of Machiavelli and Michael Angelo in that venerable Pantheon of old Florentine glory, is a tribute worthy of the strong and generous popular feeling which prevailed over the original intention of interring the Marchese in the family chapel at the Carmine. Never was a stately national ceremony more informed with true and eloquent meaning than the procession of this afternoon. Every soul of the immense crowds which thronged the streets and squares through which it passed felt the truth of the words which one of our National Guards (a mere humble maker of garden-pots) had said to me in the morning:—"e menò le mani a pro del popolo, quell' anima santa! Il popolo lo vuole a Santa Croce!" (He used his strength on behalf of the people, that blessed soul! The people will have him lie at Santa Croce). The

cortège was long and splendid; numbering very few priests, and nearly 6,000 military; while the long lines of the black-gowned brothers of the Misericordia, to which the Marchese belonged, with their rosaries, broad-leaved hats and flaming huge wax torches gave a strange old-Florentine flavour to the scene. The Marchese held the grade of General in the Tuscan army, and every soldier in Florence was under arms at his funeral. The *carabinieri* on horseback, in their new and brilliant uniforms, opened the march. Then came the *cavalleggeri*; then the troops of the line; then, with muffled drums, and to the strains of a solemn funeral march, the two first battalions of the National Guard, of which the Marchese's eldest son, the Duke of Casigliano, is one of the captains. After these came the hearse, with its black horses, plumes, black velvet and gold de *rigueur*, and the beautiful grey charger, trapped in mourning, led behind it, and the Canons of Santa Croce chanting, it seemed to me, an unwilling *Miserere* before. Next walked the members of the Tuscan Government. Ricasoli's stern, anxious face looking more careworn even than is his wont. Then the Deputies of the Assembly and the municipal authorities, all on foot, and in deep mourning. After these a crowd of officers of different regiments—Tuscan and foreign—all bright colour and embroidery. Lastly, the third and fourth battalions of National Guard, a second military band and muffled drums, and more *carabinieri* on horseback closed the procession. Perhaps the most remarkable thing in the pageant was the appearance and admirably simple and soldierly bearing of the National Guard, and many of our countryfolks newly come to Italy were loud in their expressions of admiration at the result of barely four months' drilling, especially in the regularity of their lines and the precision with which two battalions at a time fired the farewell volleys on the Piazza Santa Croce.

But soldiers who learn their exercise "with a will" are not apt to exhibit the dull and vacant impenetrability which I have seen among the Austrian recruits, rewarded over and over again close to my windows with curses and blows. Here there is honest pride and emulation at work to quicken an already lively capacity. There is also the feeling that all classes are fused without distinction in this means of national defence; and the eye, running along the ranks as they march past, remarks among the rows of bright and intelligent, and very often handsome faces, the heirs of the noblest, proudest and wealthiest families in Florence. "Ah!" quoth the patriotic garden-pot maker to me a few hours ago, "there's nothing like muskets, I say. Nothing like *Garibaldi's* subscription for me; and though I'm a poor man, I've found a *francescone* for him, and welcome! And then we're all of one mind, you see. Why, the man that stands next to me in file is worth a million and a half, and never misses drill! And if you could but hear our Captain, that's '*il Ginorino*'" (the affectionate diminutive of Marchese Ginori), "how he talks with us, and teaches us, and is one of us . . . and he was the very man that '*i Balbo*'" (the Grand-Duke) "told to mind his china manufactory, and let him alone to manage the State! '*altro che porcellane!*'" (china, forsooth!)"

And there are many such as "*il Ginorino*," thank Heaven! among the National Guard, and who (with all due deference to Herr Count de Rechberg I say it) would not be likely to accompany the triumphal entrance of "Nandino" into his capital with a very good grace, on the return of the predicted normal state of things. TH. T.

WORKS OF ART IN THE DRIFT.

Hitcham, Dec. 20.

Mr. Prestwich's remarks on the statement of the old man at Hoxne pit are very likely just. I readily admit the probability of some of the celts having been found in the flint gravel, and possibly all that were known to Mr. Frere sixty years ago came from that particular bed. I am unwilling to appear over-sceptical in regard to the conclusions that have been drawn from the evidence at Hoxne; but even Mr. Prestwich treats as doubtful those cases which have been considered to confirm Mr.

Frere's statement. Until it has been demonstrated that the celts occur at spots where the gravel was not previously denuded of the superincumbent beds, we can have no strictly scientific proof that they may not have been deposited in the gravel at a period later than the beds which are geologically superimposed upon it. I have sometimes noticed how greatly loose sand and gravel, which had been thrown up 1,500 or 2,000 years ago, has become reconsolidated, so as to render it difficult, without minute inspection, to decide whether it had been previously disturbed or not. From the bottom of a very large tumulus, entirely composed of sand and pebbles, I have obtained lumps of loosely aggregated sand containing carbonized impressions of fern-leaf (*Pteris aquilina*), and fragments of wood. On more than one occasion, when exploring a barrow, I have thought a geologist might have been puzzled whether the soil were not *in situ*, if he had only been shown a few feet square of the surface of the trench that had been cut through the barrow. In some localities the percolation of water, carrying down solutions of the carbonates of iron and lime, produces marked consolidating effects. If the observations at Abbeville and Amiens have been satisfactorily confirmed, there can remain no doubt with any geologist that the Hoxne pit will very probably prove an analogous case. I am perfectly prepared to accept it as such when the evidence upon which it rests shall be placed above all suspicion. I have no time this week to write further; but if you can find space enough for another communication, I should like to direct attention to a few facts which may possibly assist in clearing up the mystery which at present hangs over these most interesting discoveries. I don't know whether the following passage in L'Abbé Cochet's '*Normandie Souterraine*' has attracted the attention of those who are at work upon the subject; but, at all events, if inserted in your pages it will become more widely known:—"Londinières, toutefois, remonte à une très-haute antiquité; les collines environnantes renferment une foule de haches en silex: les *Marettes* (?) seules en ont fourni des centaines." 1st edition, page 181.

With respect to my noticing the way in which flints obtain invisible flaws, I merely wished it to be regarded as a comment upon a suggestion made in a letter in the *Athenæum* the week before, and not that I considered it likely to throw much light upon the fragments of flint which have been regarded as knives when found in caverns. If I may venture a suggestion in that direction, I should be much more inclined to consider them as fragments used for obtaining light. The Abbé Cochet more than once alludes to flints, shaped like gun-flints, being found with other articles which had evidently been worn in the girdles of persons whose skeletons he had disinterred. That materials for procuring light were commonly carried about the person when the Roman armies were on the march, may be gathered from Pliny:—"Hi exploratoribus castrorum maxime necessari, qui clavo vel altero lapide percussi scintillas edunt." The "*altero lapide*" may be a mistake, or he may refer to some purpose answered by merely obtaining the light emitted from rubbing two quartzose pebbles, without regard to the iron requisite for obtaining sparks. If conveniently-shaped fragments of flint were carried into caverns and dropped upon the soil, we may expect they would find their way down to the potted bones below. It is well known that the surface is continually raised by worm-casts, and thus objects—as chalk and pebbles—become buried. Antiquaries will remember how long the so-called "*Kimmeridge Coal-money*" continued to be a puzzle. In some learned disquisitions, it was supposed to have been of Phœnician origin, and employed in sacrificial rites, &c. It has since been proved to be nothing more than the waste pieces which had remained attached to the chucks of turning-lathes, and had been chucked aside by the workmen when they had detached the armlets, vases, and other objects fashioned by them out of this quasi-jet material. They are found abundantly beneath the soil in the Isle of Purbeck. J. S. HENSLOW.

P.S.—You are aware that the miscarriage of your letter, and consequent delay for a fortnight

at Heatham, Norfolk, has been the cause of my delay in writing.

THE NORTHWICK GEMS AND COINS.

DURING the last two weeks the first portion of the rich numismatic collection, formed during the last seventy years by the late Lord Northwick, has been disposed of by Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson, and some of the best specimens, we are glad to say, have been secured for the British Museum. The many interesting and unique pieces known to exist in this cabinet naturally elicited considerable competition, which was sustained with great spirit during the whole of the sale. With the carefully-compiled Catalogue before us, we have considered the following as worthy of special citation:—*Agrigentum*, 159*l*. The notorious monster *Sylla*, depicted upon this beautiful medal, so strikingly corresponds with Virgil's description, that, as has been observed by Dr. Noehden, one might imagine the poet had had this coin before him when he wrote these verses:—

*Prima hominis facies, et pulchro pectore virgo
Pube tenus; postrema immani corpore prius,
Delphinum caudas utero commissa luporum.*

Æneid, III. 420-23.

—*Camarina*, 52*l*. This highly-interesting piece presents us with the legend of the visit of *Zeus* to *Leda* in the form of a swan. The artistic beauty of this specimen is seen to advantage in Dr. Noehden's enlarged engraving, which is cited in the Catalogue. It was bought for the British Museum.—*Catana*, 52*l*. The artist's name is here gracefully introduced on a small tablet held by the *Victory* floating over the victorious quadriga. This elegant production passes to our National Collection.—*Syracuse*, 51*l*. A most charming specimen of medallio Art, by *Eukleidas*, whose name appears on the helmet of *Minerva*.—*Syracuse*, 41*l*. An exquisite production, by one of the artists of the renowned *Syracusan* medallions, *KIMQN*, whose name appears on the diadem of *Arethusa*. This valuable and beautiful variety, for which *Torremuzza* cites the *Carrelli* cabinet, now adorns that of one of our most distinguished amateurs.—*Philip the Second*, *Macedoniz Rex*, 29*l*. 10*s*. This unique gold didrachm bears the name of a known Rhodian magistrate, accompanied by the device and name of the city of *Rhodes*. The circumstances under which this remarkable variety of the money of *Philip* was minted would form an extremely interesting subject of inquiry, and might be advantageously discussed by the collective talent of the Numismatic Society.—*Gortyna*, 51*l*. 10*s*. Here we have another unique piece, the device of which seems to point to a connexion with *Ephesus*. We had hoped to have seen it secured for our national cabinet: it was, however, purchased for foreign account.—*Magnesia ad Meandrum*, 265*l*. The name of the purchaser of this perfect and exquisitely beautiful numismatic monument has not transpired; but the severe competition for such a production is not only an honourable proof of the appreciation of high Art, but, furthermore, that it exists in the right quarter.—*Samos*, 100*l*. It is difficult to imagine anything more beautiful than the artistic conception of the type of this extraordinary coin. The incipient demi-god grasps the serpents with a heroic vigour that may be said to foreshadow the more colossal labours which at a later period of his life he was destined to perform.—*Cleopatra*, *Syrie Regina*, 240*l*. This "goddess," for so she is styled on the medal, the daughter of *Ptolemy the Sixth*, King of *Egypt*, was successively the wife of *Alexander the First*, *Demetrius the Second*, and *Antiochus the Seventh*, and the mother of *Seleucus the Fifth*, *Antiochus the Eighth*, and *Antiochus the Ninth*, all Kings of *Syria*, and has the unenviable reputation of being the murderer of her husband *Demetrius*, and of her son *Seleucus*; but finally met her death in a cup of poison intended for her second son, *Antiochus the Eighth*. The remarkable historical medal, now supposed to be unique, was struck in the last year of her sanguinary career. It was purchased for the British Museum. Among the class of Biblical coins, may be cited those of *Neapolis* in *Samaria* (1,455), with the type of the temple on *Mount Gerizim*,—the silver shekel of *Simon Maccabeus*,

—and the copper coin of *Herod the Great*,—which appear in the Catalogue under Nos. 1,460 and 1,466. The British Museum has also secured *Delphi*, struck by the *Amphictyonic League*, veiled head of *Ceres* to left, &c., 69*l*.—*Athens*, head of *Minerva*, &c., 35*l*.—*Elis*, *Zeus Olympius* seated, &c., 30*l*.—Head of a *Bacchante*, 20*l*.—*Polyrhenum*, the *tetradrachm*, type of *Athens*, &c., 38*l*.—Uncertain King of *Phenicia*, 35*l*. Altogether, we understand that the Museum has secured as many as 100 coins from the present sale, at an expense of about 900*l*. That the amount given for the *Cleopatra* was not excessive, considering its rarity, extreme beauty and fine preservation, is confirmed by the fact, that the agent of the Duke de *Luyne* received a commission from him to bid as high as 300*l*. for it; but the agent's instructions arrived too late to be carried into effect.—The grand total of the sale was 8,568*l*. 15*s*.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE case for a separation of the literary and scientific collections in Great Russell Street is said to turn, as the manner of our country is, more immediately on the practical question of present cost than on the question of philosophical arrangement, or even of future saving. Hence the Committee of Trustees are said to be engaged, not so much in discussing the principles of classification, as in ascertaining the prices of land in *Bloomsbury* and *South Kensington*. Even on this lower ground, if the requirements of the Department of *Natural History* be fully laid before the Board of Trustees, the verdict must be given in favour of removal. The fear is, that, following the House of Commons policy, the *Bloomsbury* party may present only part of their need, and so, for the sake of an illusive economy, get the Trustees committed to their principle. The fact, we believe, is, that ten acres are needed for the ever-growing scientific treasures:—this land must be obtained, either now in mass or in plots during the dozen years next to come. Should this circumstance be fairly stated at the outset, how can the result of a vote be doubtful? Land on the *South Kensington* estate may be obtained by the nation from Her Majesty's Commissioners at least four-fifths cheaper than from the proprietors of *Montagu Place* and *Russell Square*. The first, we imagine, may be had for 5,000*l*. or 10,000*l*. an acre. The other would have to be bought at 45,000*l*. or 50,000*l*. the acre. The difference on ten acres would be 400,000*l*. Why, this sum would build a palace for the reception of the scientific collections.

Among the preparations for sending ships, men, guns, bombs and rockets to the Chinese coast, we should be pleased to hear of Government sending out a competent naturalist. We know very little of the *Fauna* or *Flora* of Northern China. With our Indian possessions to cultivate, it is of the highest importance that this little should be increased. We already owe to China, in a great degree from the enterprise of our old Correspondent Mr. Robert Fortune, several profitable Indian industries. More, much more, is unquestionably to be learnt from the barbarians; and if we are eager to teach them how to fight, we should at least be eager to learn from them whatever we can in the way of civilization. The French will make notes in China if we do not, to our comparative disadvantage. Mr. Blyth, curator of the Zoological Collection of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, would be an excellent choice, we should think, for such a mission.

A pension of 50*l*. a year from the Civil List has been given to Mrs. Janet Taylor, "whose services to the mercantile marine," says the *Times*, "are well known."

Mr. William Blades, a gentleman who has been engaged for some time past in preparing a memoir on the life and labours of *Caxton*, and with that object has thought it expedient to examine all the known copies of *Caxton*, whether in public or private collections, has had the good fortune lately to discover a small publication of our first printer, hitherto unnoticed by all bibliographers. It is a broadside, and remarkable as the first broadside printed in the English language. Mr. Blades dis-

covered it lurking in Lord Spencer's copy of the 'Pilgrimage of the Sowle,' translated into English from the French of Guillaume de Guilleville, and printed by Caxton in the year 1483. From the similarity of the type and the subject, it was doubtless concluded by Dibdin and others that this sheet formed a part of the work mentioned, and with which it was bound up. Upon closer inspection, however, it has turned out to be a wholly independent publication, and a veritable broadside. The contents are simply two prayers, apparently intended to be used by Christians at the hour of death. These prayers are intensely devotional, and as a specimen of the religious fervour of our ancestors, even under the reign of the fourth Edward, we extract the former of the two. It is as follows:—"O glorious Jhesu, O mekest Jhesu, O mooste sweetest Jhesu, I praye the, that I may have trewe confession, contricion, and satisfacion, or I dye. And that I may see and receyve thy holy body god and man Sauyours of alle mankynde Cryst Jhesu without synne. And that thou wylt my lord god forgeue me alle my synnes for thy glorious woundes and passion. And that I may ende my lyf in the trewe feythe of alle holy chirche. And in parfycht loue and charyte with my euen crysten as thy creature. And I comende my sowle in to thy holy handes thurgh the glorious helpe of thy blessed moder of mercy our lady saynt Mary, and alle the holy compagne of heuen Amen. The holy body of Cryst Jhesu be my saluacion of body and soule Amen. The Glorious blood of Cryst Jhesu bryngyng my soule and body in to the euerlastyng blyss Amen. I crye god mercy, I crye god mercy, I crye god mercy. Welcome my maker, welcome my redeemer, welcome my sauour. I crye the mercy with herte contryte of my grete vnkyndenesse that I have had unto the." In the second prayer, which is equally devout with the first, but too long for extract, there is not a single expression that could be objected to by the most evangelical person of the present day.

Mr. W. H. Russell, "Pen of the War," as Douglas Jerrold felicitously called him, is about to assume editorial responsibilities in connexion with *The Army and Navy Gazette*. This journal is to be devoted to the discussion of questions relating to the military services and national defences.

We are glad to see the *Times* call attention to the "ridiculous" arrangement by which the public are now teased at *South Kensington*. Through the resolution of the public, the *Vernon Gallery* and the *Turner pictures* have been united with the *Sheepshanks Collection*, so as to form one splendid gallery of modern English art. The trustees of the National Gallery opposed this transfer to the last. When they found public feeling too strong, they clogged their concession with a number of trifling conditions, such as having for that portion of the English collection under their control a separate entrance and a separate umbrella-stand! The consequence is, that the public, when going to see their own pictures, are expected to walk up a dirty lane instead of through the *Sheepshanks Gallery*. Surely this pretence of making a sham distinction between one part of the Collection and another—as though they were not both the common property of the nation—is the affectation of trusteeship.

We have only to print the following as we receive it:—

"17, King William Street, West Strand, Dec. 20.
"I would beg leave to correct an error made in the review of *Bibliographical Pamphlets* of the late Cavaliere Giuseppe Molini. He only stopped payment once, in 1814, when the firm was Molini, Landi & Co., when, I believe, all the creditors were satisfied. With the failure of Giuseppe Veroli & Co., G. Molini had nothing to do, as he had relinquished business in favour of his only son, Luigi; and this bankruptcy was caused by the misconduct of Veroli, and caused Giuseppe Molini very great annoyance, and who assisted in an arrangement with the creditors.—I am, &c.
"CHAS. FRED. MOLINI."

An explanation has been given by Mr. Charles Dickens on the subject of a silly but widely-circu-

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lated bit of slander—in which Mr. Dickens was accused of putting an old friend's peculiarities, greatly caricatured, into one of his books, under the figure of Harold Skimpole. Mr. Dickens's explanation is conceived in his most kindly humour:—"Four or five years ago the writer of these lines was much pained by accidentally encountering a printed statement, 'that Mr. Leigh Hunt was the original of Harold Skimpole in 'Bleak House.' The writer of these lines is the author of that book. The statement came from America. It is no disrespect to that country, in which the writer has, perhaps, as many friends and as true an interest as any man that lives, good-humouredly to state the fact, that he has, now and then, been the subject of paragraphs in Transatlantic newspapers, more surprisingly destitute of all foundation in truth than the wildest delusions of the wildest lunatics. For reasons born of this experience, he let the thing go by. But, since Mr. Leigh Hunt's death, the statement has been revived in England. The delicacy and generosity evinced in its revival are for the rather late consideration of its revivers. The fact is this:—Exactly those graces and charms of manner which are remembered in the words we have quoted were remembered by the author of the work of fiction in question, when he drew the character in question. Above all other things, 'that sort of gay and ostentatious wilfulness' in the humouring of a subject, which had many a time delighted him, and impressed him as being unspeakably whimsical and attractive, was the airy quality he wanted for the man he invented. Partly for this reason, and partly (he has since often grieved to think) for the pleasure it afforded him to find that delightful manner reproducing itself under his hand, he yielded to the temptation of too often making the character speak like his old friend. He no more thought, God forgive him! that the admired original would ever be charged with the imaginary vices of the fictitious creature, than he has himself ever thought of charging the blood of Desdemona and Othello on the innocent Academy model who sat for Iago's leg in the picture. Even as to the mere occasional manner, he meant to be so cautious and conscientious, that he privately referred the proof sheets of the first number of that book to two intimate literary friends of Leigh Hunt (both still living), and altered the whole of that part of the text on their discovering too strong a resemblance to his 'way.'" This explanation is, we understand, perfectly satisfactory to Mr. Leigh Hunt's family.

Efforts are being made by a body of merchants in Liverpool to introduce a taste for science and literature amongst the working men of that town, by means of popular lectures, similar to those delivered at the Government Museums, Jermyn Street, and South Kensington. Having formed themselves into a committee, whereof the Mayor is chairman, and Mr. James Samuelson (author of the 'Earthworm and Common Housefly') is honorary secretary, they engaged Dr. Lankester to deliver his course of Lectures on Food, and hired a large hall in the centre of the town for their delivery. To add interest to these lectures, the committee enlisted the co-operation of a number of eminent brokers, one of whom exhibited, after each lecture, samples of the various articles of produce treated by the lecturer, such as tea, coffee, tobacco, sugars, grains, &c., and added his practical experiences of the particular trade.

London is merry with preparations for the Christmas week. Nearly all the theatres, from Covent Garden to the Royal Grecian, are busy with clown, columbine, sprite and pantaloon; and next week, given up to the genial spirit of the season, we shall all be laughing with our little folks from school at the fine old practical jokes—as clown knocks down the small boy, bonnets the policeman, and pockets the hot poker. Other places of public entertainment, more or less serious in their invitations, are on the alert.—A fancy fair is to be held at the Crystal Palace, with a gigantic Christmas tree, magic lanterns, and the like.—The Great Globe and all that it contains is at the public service.—Madame Tussaud is waxing stronger in attractions.—The Colosseum offers music, mimicry, Swiss waterfalls, caves, stalactites, ruins, and magnificent panoramas.

Here is choice enough surely for the Willie or Edie most passionately bent on holiday pleasures.

The year, before parting, has added another bright name to the long list of literary celebrities which it has taken away from us. We regret to have to record the death of Wilhelm Grimm, the younger of the two eminent brothers who, by their united efforts, have so vastly contributed to the knowledge of German antiquity, German folk-lore, and the history of the German language. Wilhelm Grimm died on the 16th of this month, at Berlin, in consequence of an abscess on the back, from which he had been suffering for the last fortnight. He was born on the 24th of February 1786, a year after his brother Jacob, at Hanau; received his first education at the Lyceum at Cassel, and became, in 1804, a law student at the University of Marburg. From 1814 to 1830 he was employed as Secretary at the Electoral Library at Cassel, and went then, with his brother Jacob, to Göttingen, where he was employed as Assistant Librarian, and, since 1835, as Professor at the University. In 1837, he protested, with his brother Jacob and five other Professors, against the arbitrary overthrow of the constitution of the kingdom of Hanover, in consequence of which he was deposed and banished. He found an asylum at Cassel, until, in 1841, the liberality of the King of Prussia opened to him, as well as to his elder brother, a new sphere of activity at the University of Berlin. Ever since that time both brothers have been indefatigable in the service of science. A great part of their joint labours, especially the slowly advancing Dictionary of the German Language, remains undone on the shoulders of the surviving brother. Wilhelm Grimm's name is a lasting one; neither the patriot nor the man of science can forget him. Nor will the children for whom he collected those ever-fresh and ever-fragrant greenwood flowers, the "Kinderen Hausmärchen" of Germany.

From Corfu we hear that an Ionian Association for the promotion of Science, Literature, and Art, has been formed under favourable circumstances. Sir Andrea Mustoxidi is named as President, Mr. Drummond Wolf as Vice-President. The Committee consists of Signor Antonio Pollit, Count A. Mercali, the Most Illustrious Sir Tpaldo Xidian, Rev. Papà Vulimà, Dr. Napoleone Zambelli, M. Grasset, French Consul, M. Bacheracht, Russian Consul, Charles Sargent, and Colonel Irvine, R.A. The Ionian Association proposes to collect information on Literature, Art, and Science generally, so far as concerns the Islands more especially; to encourage the energies of Ionian citizens and others, by the distribution of prizes and certificates of honour; to institute inquiries into the past history, and the present physical resources and condition of the Islands and the adjacent Continent. To effect these objects, books, funds, collections, will be needful. It will be the endeavour of the Society, therefore, first, to establish a Library, Museum, and other Scientific Institutions at Corfu. When this has been done for Corfu, an attempt will be made to establish similar institutions in the other Islands, which will offer, to travellers and scholars, a means of pursuing, with facility, their studies in Cephalonia, Zante, Santa Maura, Ithaca, Cerigo, and Paxò. We wish the Association every success.

"It is a novelty worthy of record," says our Neapolitan Correspondent, "that four new Professors have been just appointed to the University, all of whom hold Government appointments, and two of whom were the Commendatore Bianchini, Director of the Interior and of the Police, and the Commendatore Muzena, who was Minister of Finance and of Public Works. The former has been appointed to the Chair of Commerce and Public Economy; the latter to the Chair of Administrative Law; the Commendatore Roberti to that of Penal Law, and Cavaliere Rocco to that of Commercial or Maritime Law. Bianchini, as you know, has already written on the subject of Political Economy, in a work which he styles 'Ben'essere Sociali,' the authorship of which has been disputed. He may be supposed to be acquainted with his subject; but, advanced in life, and in a perfectly novel position, it may be much questioned

how far he is fitted to impart information. Muzena is, I understand, a good appointment; but to each there is this objection, little felt or appreciated here, of course,—the appointments are illegal. By Royal Decree, no one can occupy a chair who has already a Government appointment, as each of the above-named gentlemen has;—and again, the appointments should be made as the consequence of a competition. Many young men had entered their names to compete for one or more of the chairs, who are now deprived of their path of promotion. The Chair of Political Economy is almost new here; or, if not, has been saddled with such conditions that the instruction communicated from it was of little or no value. Besides this, no permission could be obtained for printing any works on Political Economy,—the subject has been altogether discouraged. It is only two years since that a Neapolitan publisher laboured ineffectually to be permitted to collect and print the works which have been written on Political Economy by Italians, Milanese, Neapolitans and others. I understand that they have great merit; but where Government is held to be a Divine right, it is inferred, of course, that the arts of Government also are communicated from above, and that Political Economy, or any other social science, is perfectly useless. The theory, monstrous as it is, is reduced to practice in Naples."

The Last Week of

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL WINTER EXHIBITION OF CARPET PICTURES, Drawings, and Sketches, Contributions of BRITISH ARTISTS, is NOW OPEN, at the Free Gallery, 120, Pall Mall.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogues, 6d. Open from Ten till Five.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.—ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—Patron, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF COVE.—Inhibition of CHILDE'S SPLENDID NEW PHANTASMA-GORIA, Daily, at Half-past Two and Half-past Seven.—Lecture by E. V. GAKKON, Professor of Chemistry, on the PHILOSOPHY OF MAGIC.—Exhibition of the BEAUTIFUL COLOURED FIRE CLOUD.—New Entertainment by Mr. GEORGE BUCKLAND, "MOTLEY," or, the Ways of the World. Musically, Vocally, Serio-Comically, and Pictorially Illustrated.—THE OXY-HYDROGEN MICROSCOPE.—Lecture by Mr. KIRK, SCIENTIFIC RECREATIONS.—DISSOLVING VIEWS: INDIA AND CHINA.—NEW CHROMATOPES.—DIVER, DIVING-BELL, &c. &c.

ROYAL COLLOSSEUM.—CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.—Open Daily, Morning, Twelve to Five; Evening, Seven to Half-past Ten.—THE NOVELTIES, &c., for the PRESENT SEASON:—Miss KATE and Miss ELLEN TERRY, of the Princess's Theatre, in their New Operatic Drawing-room Entertainment, entitled DISTANT RELATIONS.—A Beautiful Series of COLOURED PHOTOGRAPHIC DISSOLVING-VIEWS OF CHINA, Photographed on the spot, and expressly prepared for this Institution by Messrs. Negretti & Zambra.—New Humorous Character Monologues, with Songs and Illustrations, by Mr. W. P. Foster, entitled THERE AND BACK.—A Musical Melange, entitled NOTES ON EVENING PARTIES, by Mr. Jones Hewson (his first appearance in London).—Splendid Series of DISSOLVING VIEWS OF THE GOOD OLD TIMES, with Vocal Illustrations by Mr. Edward Dale.—THE WONDERS OF MODERN MAGIC, by Mr. James Taylor, in which he will introduce several New and Startling Deceptions.—Middle Prudence will exhibit her wonderful performance of CLAIRVOYANCE.—Colossal DIORAMA OF LISBON, with New Effects, and Vocal Illustrations, by Mr. Edward Dale and Chorus.—Magnificent PANORAMA OF LONDON AND PARIS by NIGHT.—Stalactite and Ice Palace.—Cottages and Mountain Torrent.—Cosmorama Views—Museum of Sculpture—Vocal and Instrumental Music, Conservatories, brilliantly illuminated, &c.—Admission to the whole, 1s. Dr. BACHHOFFNER, F.R.S., Sole Lessee and Manager.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM ALBRIKKELL.—POLYGRAPHIC HALL, King William Street, Charing Cross.—EVERY EVENING, at Eight. MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY AFTERNOONS, at Three. Entertainment in Physical and Natural Magic. Entirely New Tricks for the Christmas Holidays. Amphitheatre, 1s.; Arch, 2s.; Stalls, 3s.; Private Boxes, One Guinea. Places may be secured at Mr. Mitchell's, Royal Library, 33, Old Bond Street; and at the Polygraphic Hall.

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF ANATOMY AND SCIENCE, 309 OXFORD STREET. Principal, Dr. W. B. MARSTON. Open daily for Gentlemen only, from Eleven till Ten. Admission, One-shilling. Lectures six times daily. A Professor is always in attendance to impart instruction and give information on any Medical or Physiological subject.

SCIENCE

Memoirs of the Geological Survey of India. Vol. II. Part I. On the Vindhyan Rocks and their Associates in Bundelcund. By Henry B. Medlicott, A.B. (Williams & Norgate.)

ANOTHER instalment of the Geological Survey of India is now before the public, accompanied with a geological map, on a scale of four British miles to one inch, compiled from four sheets of the Indian Atlas. This portion of the Survey was undertaken to trace the Vindhyan formation continuously along its northern limits from where it is typically known on the table-lands of Rewah and Punnah, into connexion with the stratified rocks of Gwalior and Delhi to the

north-west, and also to examine its relations to the rocks on which it rests, or with which it is in contact. It has been found that this great formation exists in unbroken continuity along the entire area examined between Allahabad and Gwalior, unchanged in lithological type or geological disposition; and that it is underlain for a considerable portion of its boundary by two or more distinct series of sedimentary rocks. The Vindhyan formation itself consists of a series which the present writer thus particularizes under three local denominations:—

1. Bundair—sandstones and shales with limestones.
2. Rewah—sandstones and shales.
3. Kymore—sandstones and grits, or shales.

As to the age of this series the surveyor has but little to offer. Although they are perfectly undisturbed and apparently removed from the commonly received causes of induration and mineralization, they are almost in the lithological condition of clay, slate, and its associates. The massive sandstones show this less, but in the thinner beds and the rocks termed shales these features are marked.

The only topic of general interest touched upon by the author in this Part of the Survey is, the once celebrated Diamond mines of Punnah. These had been already imperfectly noticed by Capt. Franklin in 1833, but we have here some remarks in the nature of additions, the substance of which may be thus stated:—The diamond bed proper belongs to what are now called the Rewah shales, and the associated beds are identical in kind and position with those of the base of the scarp hard by. The rock diggings near Punnah do not cover a space of more than twenty acres. They are on a low, flat, rising ground at the base of the slope from the Kymore scarp, and there were formerly five or six pits in progress. At Kumerea the "kakru" or diamond ore is an incoherent, ferruginous, sandy earth, of variable thickness, and undecided in its position. To the east the position and form of the "kakru" become modified. In one place it is a bed of clear conglomeratic sandstone, two feet thick, resting on the strong beds of pure sandstone, and worked at the surface. But the precise position of this deposit is sometimes perplexing. There is, however, but one conglomerate bed, which, though varying in composition, seems to be continuous. The surveyor could not inspect any specimen of diamond in the matrix.

With reference to the origin of the diamonds, it can hardly be supposed that this rock is their native bed. It is most probable that the gems are fellow travellers with the pebbles. The two prominent kinds of pebble are the sub-angular fragments of red and of white shale, and pebbles of what was called green quartz, but is a semi-vitrified sandstone. The writer believes he has identified these pebbles with a particular range of rocks, and thus traced the native home of the diamonds.

The great majority of the diamond diggings besides those just described are alluvial. Against the sides of the outlying ledges there are deep deposits of "kunkurry" and lateritic clay, in which great pits are dug in order to get at the layer of coarse, subangular cherty gravel, in which diamonds are to be found. The most interesting of the alluvial mines are those of Udesna and Sakoriya. The former are in active work, but water often finds its way into the pits. Here the best material is a stiff, unctuous clay, with quartz gravel dispersed through it. There are other diamond workings in the gorge of the Boghin, which must be alluvial, as the entire excavation is to be attributed to the action of a river. The natives remove some twelve feet of dark brown clayey sand to get at the boulder bed, in the base of

which diamonds are found; but both here and below the narrow gorge the gravel at the surface of the river bed is much worked. Hereabouts, some twenty years ago, an European, name unknown, made an attempt at mining on a large scale, but with what success is yet to be discovered, although the remains of his wash-pits and picking-floors still testify to his enterprise. The author says little to encourage future undertakings of this kind, and, in fact, it is difficult to say how far the sagacity of the natives may have rightly determined the precise limits of the diamond rock. Within certain areas the ground is almost exhausted, and the natives never attempt rock diggings beyond these areas, probably for sufficient reasons. Yet it seems warrantable to infer, that not a few gems "of purest ray serene" are distributed over this pebbly conglomerate and mingled with the diluvium and alluvium of the neighbourhood. The limits of the rock-deposit should be traced, as in this part of India the rock diggings for diamonds are the most valued.

It has been supposed that coal deposits exist in parts of the present district under the Vindhyan rocks, because bituminous shales crop out from beneath the sandstone. But from the circumstances detailed in a note, we infer that the carbonized shales are not in this place indicators of true coal.

Considerable quantities of iron-ore are found here, but the scarcity of fuel renders them unimportant at present. Questions must first be settled as respects the production of iron on a large scale, and without coal, before these iron deposits, and others of similar character, are worth minute examination.

A few side-page sketches and occasional foot notes of explanation would greatly add to the acceptance of the future Parts of these Memoirs. As they now appear, no reader but a persevering geologist will attempt to peruse them; nor is it easy even for a geologist to see at the first reading where the surveyor is placing and leading him. In the first page we are hurried *in medias res*, and find no kind of indication as to our geological position relatively to the surrounding country, or the arrangement of other parts of the Survey. Each such tractate is like an oddly-shaped piece of a boy's puzzle-map apart from the other pieces into which it should fit to make the whole clear and apparent. No doubt the completed Memoirs will piece well together, but we and many of our readers may not live to witness this desirable harmony of scattered parts.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Dec. 15.—Sir B. Brodie, Bart., President, in the chair.—The Right Hon. Edward Lord Stanley was elected a Fellow.—The following papers were read:—'On the Repair of Tendons after their Subcutaneous Division,' by B. Brodhurst, Esq.;—'On the Curvature of the Indian Arc,' by Archdeacon Pratt;—'Comparison of some recently-determined Refractive Indices with Theory,' by the Rev. B. Powell.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Dec. 15.—John Bruce, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Among the presents to the Society's library was a set of the literary works of the President, Earl Stanhope, and a fine copy of Rossini's 'Views in Rome,' from Mr. J. Henderson.—Mr. G. A. Carthew exhibited a pedigree, on vellum, of the family of Hastings, commencing in the reign of Henry the Third.—Mr. T. Williment presented his original drawings from wall-paintings in the church of Faversham.—Mr. J. J. Howard exhibited, by permission of Dr. T. Cammack, a silver cramp-ring, bearing a rude attempt to inscribe the names of the Three Kings of Cologne.—Mr. B. Woodward exhibited a silver ring, bearing the model of a double cannon.—A communication was read, from Mr. A. Nesbit,

'On the Brick Architecture of the Middle Ages in the North of Germany,' illustrated by numerous drawings.

INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.—Dec. 5.—Mr. G. Godwin, V.P., in the chair.—Routine business having been transacted, the Chairman, in communicating to the Meeting the death of the President, Earl De Grey, said, The question of who shall be his successor will come before you very soon, and will, doubtless, receive the consideration which its importance demands. The first inquiry, probably, will be whether we should have a professional or a non-professional President. For my own part, I strongly incline to the opinion that the President of the Institute of Architects should himself be an architect. Selected, as he is, by the Government as member, *ex officio*, of Royal Commissions or Committees of Selection, it seems to me that the President should have such an acquaintance with the wants and views of his professional brethren, and such a knowledge of the art, as might be expected in a person holding the honourable position of your President. I do not think the Institute would lose in weight by electing an architect for its chief: the office would give dignity to the man. It seems to me that the presidential chair should be an object of ambition, the attainment of which every member of the profession should view as open to him on commencing his career. These, however, are merely my own individual opinions, and I venture to give expression to them in order that the subject may be well considered.—Mr. G. G. Scott, A.R.A., then commenced a paper, 'Gleanings from Westminster Abbey,' the conclusion of which was postponed.

Dec. 19.—Mr. Hussey, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. Scott completed his paper, which was illustrated with a remarkable set of drawings. He described particularly the Chapter House and its present miserable condition, and the Saxon portions of the abbey.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Dec. 13.—Annual Meeting.—J. Locke, Esq., M.P., President, in the chair.—The Report of the Council for the past session, which was read, noticed briefly, in accordance with the usual practice, some of the works in progress or which had been completed during the preceding twelve months.—The deceases of the Members during the year were announced to have been:—The Earl De Grey, Honorary Member; Messrs. I. K. Brunel, H. E. Fortescue, W. H. D. Mackain, R. Stephenson, M.P., T. Storey and A. Wright, Members; J. Barrett, S. Bennett, R. Cantwell, G. Donaldson, R. B. Gardiner, E. Highton, J. Houldsworth, E. Hughes and G. Mills, Associates. The resignations of one Member and three Associates were announced; and it was stated that the effective increase during the year (after deducting the deceases and resignations) amounted to thirty-seven, whilst the total number of Members of all classes on the books was 894.—The financial position of the Institution continued to be very satisfactory. There was an available balance of 1,356*l.* (of which 1,000*l.* was on deposit at interest), being an excess of 300*l.* above the balance of the previous year.—After the reading of the Report, Telford Medals were presented to Messrs M. Scott, R. Mallet, H. Bessemer and W. J. Kingsbury; a Watt Medal to Mr. J. W. Jameson; Council Premiums of books to Messrs. T. S. Isaac and M. B. Jackson; and the Manby Premium, in books, to Mr. W. J. Kingsbury.—The following gentlemen were elected to fill the several offices on the Council for the ensuing year:—G. P. Bidder, President; J. Fowler, C. H. Gregory, J. Hawshaw and J. R. M'Clean, Vice-Presidents; Sir W. Armstrong, J. Cubitt, J. E. Errington, T. E. Harrison, T. Hawksley, G. W. Hemans, J. Murray, J. Scott Russell, G. R. Stephenson and J. Whitworth, Members; and W. Bird and Capt. Huish, Associates.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Dec. 21.—J. Dillon, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Messrs. W. Bertram, G. Blackie, T. Braby, N. Grew, T. Hutton, J. M'Curdy and H. Matthews were elected Members.—The paper read was, 'On Starches; the Purposes to

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FINE ARTS

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—Willing that all sides of the argument on the Great Reform of the Royal Academy should be presented to the public, so that what is now done may be done deliberately and on firm conviction, we insert the following communication:—

"London, Dec. 20.
The question which is referred to the Council of the Royal Academy, by the members of that body, and which has been touched on by you; viz. Should the Associateship be a limited or an unlimited body? You say that an unlimited Associateship is the right thing in principle, and I agree with you that in theory it may be so; but as the Royal Academy itself is at present constituted, there are, in my mind, several considerable dangers and objections to which it would be liable. The honour conferred by the degree of Associateship would be lessened; but the injury of not receiving that honour would be greatly increased when its reception was supposed to depend on individual merit alone. I say, supposed to be,—for it would, in fact, be limited in many cases by all the chances of enmity, indifference and favouritism, to which all human nature is prone, and the artist portion acknowledgedly not exempt from. I believe in its working it would add immensely to the power and influence of the Academicians; and I, for one,—one among very many—would regret to see that, until that body was itself much reformed and somewhat enlarged in character. We know too well now, that whatever the Forty may do now about the Associateship will be done by many of them of the necessity of external pressure. Now, if the number of Associateships be limited, every vacancy becomes a right of entrance to some artist,—if the number be unlimited, every election becomes a personal favour and recognition of the individual,—a state of things liable to increase the heartburnings of jealousy and injustice, already so rife everywhere, and which must meet and pain us in all directions. I think a merely enlarged Associateship would increase the influence of the Associates on the Academy; and, through them, the outsiders would be strengthened. Suppose it increased to forty, the same as the Academy itself, with the four vacancies, it would add twenty-four names to the list; and I venture to think, if conscientiously selected, they would include all who have a present claim—and so large a number of clever men is the result of many years' accumulated injustice and exclusion—it could not for many years again occur. At the same time, I agree, unlimited Associateship, with a publicly responsible body or Academy, is the real desideratum; but take care that, in a seeming reform, they are not merely increasing the power of a rich, anomalous body,—public in its claims,—private as to its performance of the duties on which it founds those claims.

"AN ARTIST."

The National Gallery will to-day exhibit additional pictures. Important arrivals of early pictures from Italy within the last few weeks mark very satisfactorily the energy and activity of Sir Charles Eastlake and of the resident executive, Mr. Wornum.

The massive stone pedestal, with its inclosure of planking, still remains waiting in Waterloo Place for Mr. John Bell's bronze statues to complete the Memorial to the Guards. Another square planking has also started up in Palace Yard, which marks the site determined on for Baron Marochetti's statue of *Cour de Lion*. Anything on this spot would be most welcome to break the flat monotony of the façade of the Houses of Parliament. Something even larger and bolder would have been more welcome than the proposed equestrian. But the monument is a fine one. In all probability we shall see its completion before that commemorating the more modern event.

A novel and excellent mode of lighting has been established during the past week within the pre-

cincts of Covent Garden Market. Its object is to accommodate the wants of the market-gardeners during the dark early hours of the morning. The general principle is that of a ring of strong gas jets, protected by a band of glass, under a lofty, wide-spreading iron shade, enamelled white on the inside. The central high standards of iron—for they are too solid and well designed to be called lamp-posts—bear the initials of the Duke of Bedford. In these masses of well-concentrated light the public will have practical proof of what is really wanted in London for the centre of our most dangerous street-crossings. The glaring lamps that are usually made use of dazzle the eye and fail to accomplish the effect which is most wanted—namely, light the actual pavement immediately round them. Many accidents in crossing the roads occur from a glare of flame in shops opposite to the eye; but in the handsome market-garden apparatus the flood of light falling down from so great a height, and protected by so large a shade, is strong enough to overpower all surrounding lamps, and could not fail to warn the foot passengers of their danger.

Those who attended the last meeting of the British Association at Aberdeen will not have forgotten the gallery of historical portraits, which formed so interesting a feature amongst the sights provided for the members by the citizens of Bonaccord. The Committee have determined to issue some fifty or sixty photographs of the most interesting of the portraits.

An angry Correspondent writes, to complain of the enormous time the Architectural Photograph Society keeps purchasers waiting for their photographs. When our print-shop windows are full of the choicest foreign works in this art, nothing but a business-like punctuality will persuade purchasers to wait six months for impressions in no respect above the average.

A delicate and graceful portrait of the Prince of Wales—from a drawing, we believe, by Mr. Richmond—now adorns the print-shop windows, of which it is nearly the latest attraction. Of course, in these courtly things, it seems a necessity that they must never be perfectly true, and must have some garnishing of flattery. We have an inch added to the brow, the eyes quickened, the chest widened, and the chin strengthened. The result is a feminine, but most exquisite drawing, abounding in beautiful touches of sharp pencilling, and fit for any drawing-room. The hair is especially well treated, and the complexion is stippled with most commendable care and skill.

An engraving entitled 'The Forge,' the production of James Sharples, an engine-smith, in the employ of Messrs. Yates, engineers, Blackburn, now lies before us. It is the result of a self-taught workman's five years' patient toil. Although so finely executed that it has surprised some of our greatest professional engravers, it is the work of a man who never received any instruction but six months' lessons in ornamental drawing at the Bury Athenæum. It is from a painting of his own conception, which he spent three years in successfully executing—a work which was preceded by a life-size head of Christ, a family portrait, and an emblem for the Society of Engineers, which carried off the first prize. It has been wisely published at the earnest desire of the artist's brother-workmen, who look upon it as a gratifying evidence of social progress—of the spread of Art amongst our labouring population. For a first work, it is indeed a marvel; considering, moreover, that most of the engraving tools were made by the artist himself, and that, till recently at a publisher's office, Sharples had never even seen an engraved steel plate. The engraving, which represents the artist's workshop, but for the want of expression in some of the faces, could not be distinguished, by the general observer, from the work of an experienced craftsman. In fact, to our eyes, it has a freshness of manner as much superior to the dull artificial liness of the common hard steel engraving, as homemade cloth is better than the sleek devil's-dust of cheap tailoring. The tools and various engine-maker's implements are delineated as though the artist loved to draw them.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Mr. BRINLEY RICHARDS begs to announce that he will give a grand NEW YEAR'S CONCERT, on MONDAY EVENING, January 2, at St. James's Hall. Vocalists: Madlle. Moteiro Balfe, Madame Balfe, Madame and Madame Fiorentini; Herr Reichardt, Mr. Suchet Champion, and Signor Tagliacozzi. Instrumentalists: Violin, Signor Sivori; Contrabasso, Signor Botticini; Harmonium, Herr Engel; Piano-forte, Mr. Brinley Richards, Conductor. Mr. J. W. Stalls, 36; Balcony, 36; Unreserved Seats, 1s.; at the Hall, 25, Piccadilly; Messrs. Cramer & Co., 210, Regent Street; and Messrs. Chappell & Co., 39, New Bond Street.

GLEES, MADRIGALS, AND OLD ENGLISH DITTIES.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Every Evening (for a Fortnight only), and on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and FRIDAY AFTERNOONS during the Christmas Holidays. Mr. MITCHELL has the pleasure of announcing that he has made arrangements with the London Glee and Madrigal Union, Miss J. Wells, Miss Eyles, Mr. Baxter, Mr. W. Cummings and Mr. Lawler, under the Direction of Mr. Land, for a Short Series, during Christmas, of GLEES, MADRIGALS, and FAIRY SONGS, with Songs and Ballads of the Olden Time, interspersed with Illustrative Notices and Anecdotes, by THOMAS OLLIPHANT, Esq., to be given every Evening, commencing at half-past eight, and terminating at ten o'clock; and on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Afternoons, commencing at half-past two, and ending at four o'clock.—The First Concert will be given on MONDAY AFTERNOON, January 2.—Reserved Seats, 3s.; Unreserved Seats, 2s.; a few Fancifuls, 5s. each; which may be secured at Mr. Mitchell's, Royal Library, 33, Old Bond Street, W.

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—Under the Management of Miss Louisa Pyne and Mr. W. Harrison.—BOXING NIGHT, Monday, Dec. 26, and during the Week, will present an entirely new opera, *Victorine*, in three acts. Music composed by Alfred Mellon. The Translation and Poetry by Edmund Falconer. Characters by Mr. Santley, Mr. Henry Haigh, Mr. H. Corri, Mr. G. Honey, Mr. Wallwork, Mr. Bartleman, Mr. Terrot, Mr. Le Sella, Miss Thirlwall, Miss Rance, Miss St. Clair, Miss Parepa. Conductor, Mr. Alfred Mellon. After which will be produced a Comic Christmas Fairy Tale, to be called *PUSS IN BOOTS*; or, *Harlequin and the Fairy of the Golden Palace*. The Opening by J. V. Briggsman, with New Scenery, Machinery, Dresses, and Decorations. The scenery by Messrs. Grieve, Tobin, Dawson, and Campbell. The Machinery by Mr. Stoman. The Pantomime arranged and produced by Mr. Edward Stirling. *Dramatis Personæ*:—Mullon, Mr. Anderson; Huon, Miss Emily Scott; Puss in Boots, Miss Raven; The King, Mr. Bartleman; The Count Von Grabenuff, Mr. W. H. Payne; Wilfulwigh—his son, a regular Pickle, Mr. F. Payne; Gulpendown, an Ogre, Mr. Tallen; The Princess Beatrix, the pink of perfection, who pinks Haun, the heart, Miss Clara Morgan; The Countess Von Grabenuff, Mr. A. Barnes; Innocencia, Queen of the Good Fairies, Miss Kate Saxon; World-Master, Mr. Potentate, Miss Morell. Scene 1. Interior of the Mill. Scene 2. The Court of Queen Innocencia. Scene 3. The Royal Palace—Wilfulwigh in hot water. Scene 4. Corn-fields, with river in the distance. Scene 5. Gulpendown's Castle. Scene 6. Fingal's Cave off the Scottish Coast, by Moonlight. Scene 7. Grand Transformation, which the Management has endeavoured to render worthy of the palmiest days of fairy lore, being the Grove of Golden Palms. Characters for Transformation:—Harlequin, Mr. F. Payne; Clown, Mr. H. Payne; Pantaloon, Mr. W. A. Barnes; Sprites, Messrs. Tallen; Columbine, Miss Clara Morgan; Lilliputian Harlequin and Columbine, Master and Miss Lauri. Mists and clouds of doubt and suspense dispelled by the Congress of Nations assembled in the Fairy Halls of Peace. Doors open at Half-past Six. Commence at Seven. To conclude by Half-past Eleven. A Grand Morning Performance on Wednesday, the 28th, at Two o'clock, and on each succeeding Wednesday, at a charge for Booking or Fees of Box-seats.—Stalls, 7s.; Private Boxes, from 10s. 6d. (to hold four persons) upwards; Dress Circles, 5s.; Amphitheatre Stalls, 3s.; Pit, 2s. 6d.; Amphitheatre, 1s.

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA.—Mr. A. Mellon's first opera must have been naturally an object of interest to every Englishman whom its writer's talent as an English conductor has attracted. It is only fair ere the curtain goes up, or a note is heard, or a word is said, that certain thoughts and things should be recalled.—Expectation is too apt to forget that, in order to succeed on the stage (as compared with any other less mixed world of musical composition), not only are science and genius required, but also that third, and smallest, though oldest, grace—experience.—Nothing but sight and hearing of his own operas can give any new corner the power of enchanting a large public, or else of grasping the few so forcibly that the many dare not stay away. And thus no man desiring to write for the stage is to be judged from his first essay—an assertion to be proved from the lives of masters of admitted fame—such as Gluck, Mozart, Weber, Signor Rossini, M. Meyerbeer. Let Beethoven's 'Fidelio,' his one only opera, be admitted as the exception which proves the rule,—and that was a failure on its first night, which only succeeded after many remodellings.

There is no need to tell the story of Mr. Mellon's opera when we have named 'Victorine,' the clever Adelphi dream-drama, as having furnished it. The words, by Mr. Falconer, are arranged with regard to ballads and solos, rather than concerted pieces; and the book, as a whole, produces the effect of something altered and extended beyond the limits originally contemplated.—Neither shall we discuss the music bit by bit: but content ourselves in preference with an attempt to characterize it generally. It is well written for the voices; rarely affected, generally pleasing,—in a style approaching more nearly the eclectic manner of Belgian composers than that of either the German, French or Italian schools.—It has melody, though perhaps not of the

freshest ; harmony, sufficient without audacity ; nicely fancied and adroitly varied instrumentation. Containing nothing very seizing, it contains nothing (in spite of the too great elongation of the second act) which is in itself wearying. Mr. Mellon, in brief, is justified by this opera in writing again,—and his hearers in expecting that with experience he will rise higher in stage composition than he has done in 'Victorine.'

The heroine's character was exceedingly well sung,—fairly well acted, by Miss Parepa. She has done wisely to come home among her own people—since the school, the intelligence, the solid execution of every note of her music, some of which is very brilliant—the untiring power,—and the steady intonation which she exhibited on Monday evening, amount to qualifications which cannot be overlooked. It would disappoint us if this young lady should not become of great musical value in this country. Her part is an uphill part for a singer to play ; but her wish, unmistakably, was to play it ; and from such wish may come good acting with practice and opportunity. The lover of Victorine, Michel, the furniture-maker, the tenor of the opera, is Mr. Haigh. This gentleman is possessor of one of the loveliest voices ever heard in an English throat :—a voice easy, expressive and *suave*, without sickliness. So rare an amount of natural charm should be turned to better account than Mr. Haigh seems at present able to do : since he could secure the topmost honours of his profession, which are as yet far above his head. Mr. Santley has the small bass part in the opera. The public has adopted him, and rightly : because he has adopted the public,—in the only one true way—that of working in acknowledgment of favours received. Nothing more steadily progressive (with many things yet to gain) than the career of this young artist, is in the range of our experience.—A good word is due to Miss Thirlwall, who should ripen into a valuable English "seconda donna."

The *encores* were many,—the composer and the singers were greeted with every kind of welcome. What the opera will do for the theatre, let the Sibyls say. With us it has quickened every impression of Mr. Mellon's cleverness, and enhanced our value for the power and promise of Miss Parepa, the *Victorine*.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—It is not our vocation to chronicle private acts of courtesy, be they ever so gracious, save under peculiar conditions. These last, however, belong to the Penrhyn Cup. Musical readers may remember that when speaking of the concourse of village bands in Yorkshire, we adverted to the music set before Her Majesty during her passing visit to North Wales. This was contributed by workmen in the employment of her host, Col. Penant. They received the other day pleasant assurance that the serenade was not forgotten, in the form of a silver cup, accompanied by—what brings the matter within scope of comment—a letter expressly desiring that such token should be considered as a mark of Royal sympathy and encouragement for the popular cultivation of Music. It is welcome to record this, by way of strengthening the hands of every one engaged in the art,—and of spurring up those interested not to slacken in their efforts to set it in its right place as a recognized object of public care. Let us hope that the coming year will see advance in any movement having this object. Once again let it be urged that the interest of the money annually squandered on mistakes and their reparation in other departments of art and recreation would suffice to do most efficient good. Think of the Great Bell,—twice cast, twice cracked,—think of the shrubs plucked up in the Parks, which were only planted down there a couple of seasons ago,—think of the cost of planning and un-planning new public offices, which no one can get built, and, meanwhile, of propping up old ones till the battle of the architects comes to an end,—think of the extra money which must be yet voted ere New Westminster Bridge can be made accessible ! Think of these things, not in an aggravating and petulant spirit : but as so many proofs that we

English have no disinclination to expenditure, be it ever so gratuitous,—and that were public feeling once fairly turned in the direction of Music, a grant in support and cherishing of a beautiful, popular and humanizing art would pass as easily as the grants to maintain Schools for Design, or to purchase pictures for public admiration.

Handel and Bach, as composers, with Miss Arabella Goddard, Signor Piatti, Mr. Best, and Herr Becker, to play their works, made Monday's provision of instrumental music at the *Popular Concerts*. The vocal music was contributed by Miss Poole and Mr. Ramsden, in English ditties, like their entertainment, drawn from Mr. W. Chappell's collection.

We mentioned duly the projected formation of an amateur instrumental society, to act in company with the *Vocal Association*. Meetings have been held, it appears,—prospectuses circulated, and an advertisement put forth which deserves a place among the curiosities of this dying year of progress. The "blower through a hollow stick" (as an irate Quaker merchant called his clerk, who was caught over a flute in place of a ledger), that can sound an octave of sour notes on his instrument,—the bass-player, only a degree better than the wondrous scraper, who is never to be heard except when the Waits murder mid-winter sleep,—are hereby proved eligible as members, and to form part of the band assembled for weekly practice ! Surely this cannot turn out a Band of Hope !—The thing might have passed, had not professors of eminence allowed their names to stand at the head of the scheme. What wonder if imperfectly-instructed foreigners speak contemptuously of the state of Art in England, when such an invitation, thus sanctioned, is going the round of the profession and the papers !

The name of Mr. Parkinson, as a singer possessing a tenor voice of remarkable quality, is beginning to pass about in our musical circles. Let us hope he has that hundredth part—to use the well-known Italian phrase—which makes the singer.—Talking of tenors, we perceive, by news from the North, that the noise made by Signor Mongini has been "too much" for the *dilettanti* of the St. Petersburg Opera.—Signor Giuglini has appeared at the Italian Theatre at Paris, "without any very extraordinary success," writes an eye-witness on whom we can rely ; "being applauded as much as, not more than his comrades, in 'Il Trovatore,'—Mesdames Cambardi and Borghi-Mamo, and Signor Graziani.—M. Roger's benefit-performance took place on the 15th. The purpose of the evening was achieved in a brilliant receipt. M. Duprez re-appeared, to support his successor, in some fragments from 'La Juive.'

'Fidelio,' as concert-music, is about to be performed, complete, at Manchester, on the 28th, under M. Halle's direction.—Gluck's 'Iphigénie en Tauride' on the 11th of January. The principal singers on the latter occasion will be Madame Hayes, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Santley. The version in English used will be that prepared for M. Jullien's meditated production of the opera, during his short period of theatrical management, by Mr. Henry F. Chorley. It is the same writer's intention, we state by request, to attempt an English version of the other four great operas of Gluck, so as to make a uniform edition.—The week's journals of Paris announce a chance of the revival of 'Armide' at the *Théâtre Lyrique* : the opera, which among all Gluck's five, could be the most practically produced on our English stage. Greek stories require actors who can be statuesque—intelligent, artists of beauty, genius and antique study, in short.—'Armide' is a fairy tale, the precursor of a long tribe of romantic operas, of which 'Tannhäuser' is the last, and worst (as to music). But even Weber, in 'Oberon,' did not exceed, with all his mighty modern means, Gluck's music of enchantment in 'Armide.'

The *New York Herald* gives a great account of the success, at the Italian Opera there, of Signora Adelina Patti, the fourth daughter of Madame Barilli, a singer who had some renown in her time. On every account we hope the tale may prove true.—An *olla* more than usually curious seems in process of being served at the *Théâtre Français* of New York. Mr. Samuel Cowell, whose feats as

comic singer (however measured in their whim), are only known by hearsay to such musical Londoners as are distinct from the musical class who "sup to singing," is advertising his comicalities in America, in companionship with none other than our young countryman (we believe), Mr. Mills, the pianist of high promise brought up in Germany,—whose promise has been already mentioned in this journal.

MISCELLANEA

Marine Aquarium.—In your impression of the 10th instant there appeared an article on Marine Aquarium, in which your Correspondent draws attention to the errors committed in the construction of the tanks and tank-house at the Zoological Society's Garden, Regent's Park. No one will attempt to question the justness of his remarks concerning the house, the results having proved beyond a doubt that it, and perhaps the tanks too, require modification. It was not until last summer that I had an opportunity of seeing them, and after the glowing description which had been given me and which I had read, my disappointment was inexpressibly great. To every question that I put I received the reply dead, dead, until the word became an incubus. Still I cannot indorse all your Correspondent's opinions and statements. I quite agree with him in reference to the oxygen not being supplied solely by the plants but by the air in constant contact with the surface of the water, but he adopts a style of writing which savours too much of Ismaelism to please me. That he should find fault with and condemn every Aquarium which he has not engineered, is surely derogatory to any man of science and good sense, though perhaps excusable ; but that he should make assertions not borne out by facts, is unaccountable and inexcusable. Of course I cannot tell what your Correspondent sets up as his standard when he writes of the "murky abortions" which exist at various institutions, among which he classes the Museum at Hull ; but I can tell you that we are not the possessors of one of these untimely births, containing "gaspings fishes, flabby sea anemones, and weak-legged crustaceans." What it might have been, had we depended on specimens sent into the town by a London caterer, I can only conjecture ; but it is more than likely we should have been driven to form a Burial Club or a Marine Insurance Society. We do not profess to have a very extensive collection of animals : our endeavour has been rather to illustrate the Fauna of our own shores than to have a large number from other places ; and we have been so far successful that the seawater in one Aquarium has not been changed or renewed, or in any way interfered with—not even filtered—for nearly three years ; and in another we have not been much less successful. This contains a collection of Bunodes Crassicorni, or Coriacea, that would delight the most fastidious. These have been in their present home many months, and have displayed their gourmand propensities at the cost of many a crab, muscle, and whelk. The preservation of this anemone is confessedly difficult. In a letter from Mr. Gosse, he writes me—"The longest time I have ever kept Crass is four months, and then only in a very dark corner." We give them no very dark corner, and yet they live, because we have carried out the principle of oxygenation as effected by the surrounding air. What Mr. Lloyd may have done in this special instance, I do not know ; but I think all will agree that the Hull Royal Institution and its Aquaria do not deserve to be treated as and placed with the refuse, and prove that your Correspondent has written from report, and not from observation.

THOS. ROWNEY.

Royal Institution, Kingston-upon-Hull, Dec. 19.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—R. H. M.—M. A. B.—H. F.—J. E. T.—T. B.—T. E. M.—W.—J. J. L.—E. H. M.—S. F.—W. S. A.—H. J. T.—A. C.—A. K. Y.—W. B.—E. G. B. C. H.—R. M. C.—G. H. B.—received.

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ROBERT MURPHY, Manager.
WM. FINLAY, Secretary.
LONDON OFFICE, 93, POULTRY, E.C.
ARCHD. T. HITCHIE, Agent.

ARGUS LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 39, THROCKMORTON-STREET, BARK.

Chairman.—**WILLIAM LAY, Esq.**
Deputy-Chairman.—**JOHN HUMPHREY, Esq., Ald.**
Richard E. Arden, Esq., Rupert Ingley, Esq., Edward Bates, Esq., Saffery Wm. Johnson, Esq., Thomas Farncomb, Esq., Jeremiah Pilcher, Esq., Professor Hall, M.A., John H. Pook, Esq., Physician.—**Dr. Jefferson, 5, Finchbury-square.**
Surgeon.—**W. Coulson, Esq., 2, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry.**
Actuary.—**George Clark, Esq.**

ADVANTAGES OF ASSURING WITH THIS COMPANY.
The premiums are on the lowest scale consistent with security. The assured are protected by an ample subscribed capital—an assurance fund of 480,000*l.*, invested on mortgage, and in the Government Stocks—and an income of 85,000*l.* a year.

Premiums to Assure £100.			Whole Term.	
Age.	One Year.	Seven Years.	With Profits.	Without Profits.
20	£0 17 8	£0 19 9	£1 15 10	£1 11 10
30	1 1 3	1 3 7	3 5 5	3 0 7
40	1 6 9	3 0 7	3 10 10	3 1 10
50	1 14 1	1 19 10	4 6 8	4 0 11
60	3 3 4	3 17 0	6 12 9	6 0 10

MUTUAL BRANCH.

Assurances on the Bonus system are entitled, after five years, to participate in nine-tenths, or 80 per cent. of the profits.

The profit assigned to each policy can be added to the sum assured, applied in reduction of the annual premium, or be retained in cash.
At the first division a return of 30 per cent. in cash on the premiums paid was declared; this will allow a reversionary income varying, according to age, from 66 to 75 per cent. on the premiums, or from 5 to 15 per cent. on the sum assured.
One-half of the "Whole Term" premium may remain on credit for seven years, or one-third of the premium may remain for life as a debt upon the Policy at 5 per cent., or may be paid off at any time without notice.

Claims paid in one month after proofs have been approved. Loans upon approved security.
No charge for Policy money.
Medical Attendants paid for their reports.
Persons may, in time of peace, proceed to or reside in any part of Europe or British North America without extra charge.
No extra charge for the Militia, Volunteer Rifle, or Artillery Corps on Home Service.
The Medical Officers attend every day, at a quarter before Two o'clock on **WEDNESDAYS**, Resident Director.

BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 4 Vict. cap. 9.
1, Princes-street, Bank, London.
Major-General ALEXANDER, Blackheath Park, Chairman.
Increasing rates of Premium, especially adapted to the securing of Loans or Debts.
Half-credit rules, whereby half the Premium only is payable during the first seven years, or at death if occurring previously.
Sum assured payable at sixty, or at death if occurring previously.
Provision during minority for Orphans.

BRITANNIA MUTUAL LIFE ASSOCIATION.
Empowered by Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent.
Profits divided annually.
Premiums for every three months' difference of age.
Half-credit Policies granted on terms unusually favourable, the unpaid Half-Premiums being liquidated out of the Profits.

WITHOUT PROFITS.				WITH PROFITS.			
Age.	Half-Prem. 7 years.	Whole Prem. remainder of life.	Yrs.	Age.	Annual Prem.	Half-Yearly Premium.	Quarterly Premium.
30	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	30	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
40	1 9 3	3 18 4	40	3 9 7	1 4 4	0 12 3	0 12 4
50	3 9 6	4 5 0	50	3 7 10	1 4 8	0 12 6	0 12 6
60	8 6 8	6 15 4	60	9 9 2	1 4 8	0 12 6	0 12 6

ANDREW FRANCIS, Secretary.
ESTABLISHED 1841.

MEDICAL, INVALID AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

EMPOWERED BY SPECIAL ACT OF PARLIAMENT,
18 Vict. Cap. xxxiii.
LONDON, 25, PALL MALL.

Directors.
BENJAMIN PHILLIPS, Esq., F.R.S., Chairman.
E. Doubleday, Esq., F.R.S. Sir Thomas Phillips.
Lt.-Col. H. Dondson, H.E.I.C.S. T. Stevenson, Esq., S.A.
George Gun Hay, Esq. R. B. Todd, M.D., F.R.S.
G. G. MacPherson, Esq., J. Whishaw, Esq., F.R.S.
H.E.I.C.S.

Department of Medical Statistics.—**William Farr, Esq., M.D., D.C.L. F.R.S.**

At the EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING, held on the 24th of November, 1859, it was shown that on the 30th of June last—
The number of Policies in force was 6,110
The Amount Insured was £2,901,995 10*s.* 8*d.*
The Annual Income was £121,963 7*s.* 7*d.*

The new business transacted during the last five years amounts to 9,453,705*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*, showing an average yearly amount of new business of nearly
Half a Million sterling.

The Society has paid for claims by death, since its establishment in 1841, no less a sum than 503,015*l.*

INDIA.—Premiums have been computed on the actual results of European Life in that Colony, extending over the whole period of the East India Company's experience, and will be found generally lower than those of other Companies, and especially favourable for military men.

Civil rates charged on the lives of military officers holding civil appointments, for the term of such appointments.

Immediate reduction to English rates on the Assured returning to Europe permanently to reside.

Policies may be made payable either in London or in India, at the rate of Two Shillings sterling per Company's Rupee.

HEALTHY LIVES.—Assurances are effected at Home or Abroad on healthy lives at as moderate rates as the most recent data will allow.

ARMY AND NAVY.—No extra Premium is required on Healthy Lives in the Army or Navy unless in actual service.

MASTER MARINERS are assured for life or for a voyage at equitable rates.

VOLUNTEERS.—No extra charge for persons serving in any Volunteer or Rifle Corps within the United Kingdom.

RESIDENCE ABROAD.—The Policies issued by this Society give greater facilities to parties going to or residing in Foreign Climates than those of most other Companies.

INVALID LIVES Assured on scientifically-constructed Tables based on extensive data, and a reduction in the Premium is made when the causes for an increased rate of Premium have ceased.

STAMP DUTY.—Policies issued free of stamp-duty, and every other charge except the premium.

MEDICAL MEN are paid a guinea for each report, and receive the same advantages as Solicitors for any business they may introduce.

NOTICES OF ASSIGNMENT are registered and acknowledged without charge.

SECURITY.—Assurers incur no risk of Copartnership as in Mutual Offices, but are free from all liability.

A Capital of Half-a-Million sterling, fully subscribed (in addition to a large income and accumulated assets) affords a complete guarantee for the fulfilment of the Company's engagements.

NORTH BRITISH INSURANCE COMPANY, 61, PRINCES-STREET, EDINBURGH. 67, SACKVILLE-STREET, DUBLIN.

Incorporated by Royal Charter and Act of Parliament, 1809.
New Assurances during the past year £377,495 0 0
Yielding in New Premiums 12,565 18 8
Profit realized since the last septennial investigation 136,629 5 0
Bonus declared of 1*l.* 5*s.* per cent. per annum on every policy opened prior to Dec. 31st, 1858 £31,345 16 5
Fire Premiums received in 1858

LONDON BOARD.
SIR PETER LAURIE, Alderman, Chairman.
JOHN I. GLENNIE, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.
William Borradaile, Esq., Archibald Cockburn, Esq., John Connell, Esq., Peter Northall Laurie, Esq., Chas. J. Knowles, Esq., Q.C., E. J. F. Pearce, Esq., Alexander Dobie, Esq., Lancaster-place, Solicitor.
Bankers.—**Union Bank of London.**
Prospectuses, Forms of Proposals, &c. may be obtained at the Office, 4, NEW BANK-BUILDINGS, Lothbury, London, E.C.
ROBERT STRACHAN, Secretary.

LONDON LIFE ASSOCIATION, 81, KING WILLIAM-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Instituted 1866.
President.—**Charles Franks, Esq.**
Vice-President.—**John Benjamin Heath, Esq.**

Trustees.
Francis Henry Mitchell, Esq., **Robert Hanbury, Esq.,**
Alfred Head, Esq., **Bonamy Dobree, Esq.,**
The London Life Association was established more than fifty years ago, on the principle of Mutual Assurance; the whole of the benefits being shared by the Members assured. The surplus is ascertained each year, and appropriated solely to a reduction of the Premiums, and not to an increase of the sum assured by the Policies; the Members being entitled to such reduction after they have been assured for seven years.
The Society has paid in claims more than £3,540,000
And has Policies now in force amounting to £6,282,000
For the payment of which it possesses a capital exceeding £5,000,000
And a gross income from premiums and interest, of more than £300,000

Assurances may be effected for any sum not exceeding 10,000*l.* on the same life.
The Society has no agents, and allows no commission.
EDWARD DOCKRILL, Secretary.

SCOTTISH UNION FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Scottish Union Insurance Company was held on Wednesday, the 7th day of December, 1859. A Report by the Directors, giving full and detailed statements of the Company's transactions, was submitted to the Meeting, and unanimously approved of. The Report by the Auditor of the Company, certifying the accuracy of the Balance Sheets and of the various statements, was also submitted to the Meeting.
It appeared from the Report that—
The number of Life Policies issued during the year was 222
The amount insured thereby was £232,740
Yielding of new Premiums £7,314 1*s.* 9*d.*
That the amount paid for Life claims, including bonuses, was considerably less than in the previous year; and that after payment of all claims, expenses of management, &c., a large sum was added to the Life Assurance funds.
In the Fire Department, it was stated that the Premiums amounted to 40,574*l.*, being an increase of upwards of 3,600*l.*, when compared with the amount for the previous year; and that, after payment of all Fire losses, expenses of management, &c., there was a considerable surplus on the Fire account.
A Dividend was declared payable to the Shareholders on the 3rd of January, 1860, at the rate of 9 per cent. free of income-tax.

LONDON BOARD.
President.—**The Right Hon. the EARL OF MANSFIELD.**
Directors.

P. Anstruther, Esq., **H. M. Kemshead, Esq.,**
Charles Balfour, Esq., **John Kingston, Esq.,**
R. H. Colburn, Esq., M.D., **John Robertson, Esq.,**
J. E. Goodhart, Esq., **Hugh F. Sandeman, Esq.,**
George Ramsay, Esq., Manager.
Secretary.—**F. G. SMITH, Esq. | Surgeon.**—**E. W. Duffin, M.D.**
Solicitor.—**Messrs. Oliversen, Lavie & Peachey.**
Forms for Proposals, and Prospectuses, containing all the particulars, may be had at any of the Company's Offices and of the Agents throughout the Kingdom.
F. G. SMITH, Secretary to the London Board.
37, Cornhill, London.

ALLIANCE BRITISH AND FOREIGN LIFE AND FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY. BAITHOLOMEW-LANE, LONDON, E.C.

Established 1824.
(Branch Offices: EDINBURGH, IPSWICH, and BURY ST. EDMUNDS.)
Capital—**FIVE MILLIONS Sterling.**
President.—**SIR MOSES MONTEPIORE, Bart.**

Directors.
James Alexander, Esq., **James Helme, Esq.,**
Charles G. Barnett, Esq., **John Irving, Esq.,**
George H. Barnett, Esq., **Sampson Lucas, Esq.,**
Elliot Macneil, Esq., M.P., **Thomas Masterman, Esq.,**
Sir George Carroll, Esq., **Jos. M. Montefiore, Esq.,**
Benjamin Cohen, Esq., **Sir A. N. de Rothschild, Bart.,**
James Fletcher, Esq., **L. N. de Rothschild, Esq., M.P.,**
Charles Gibbs, Esq., **Gerald Smith, Esq.,**
William Gladstone, Esq., M.P., **Thomas Charles Smith, Esq.,**
Samuel Gurney, Esq., M.P.

LIFE ASSURANCES are granted under an extensive variety of forms, with, or without, participation, and at moderate premiums: the rates for the Younger Ages being lower than those of many of the older and most respectable Offices.

ACTUAL SERVICE RISK, within the United Kingdom, in Volunteer and Militia Regiments, and in the Militia, is covered by the Company's Policies.

FIRE ASSURANCES, both at Home and Abroad, are accepted at very moderate Premiums.

The Assured participate in the Fire Profits in respect of Policies in force for five complete years. The return for the past Quinquennial period is in course of distribution.

FRANCIS A. ENGELBACH, Actuary and Secretary.
* * * The Receipts for the RENEWAL PREMIUMS due at CHRISTMAS are ready for delivery in Town and throughout the Country.

EVANS'S ENGLISH HARMONIUMS,

MANUFACTURED BY

BOOSEY & SONS, HOLLES-STREET, LONDON.

In reply to certain statements which have been made by Messrs. Chappell & Co., the agents of M. Alexandre, of Paris, Boosey & Sons beg distinctly to state that EVANS'S ENGLISH HARMONIUMS are made throughout at their Manufactory in Wells-street, Oxford-street, under the superintendence of Mr. EVANS, and that no part of the Instrument is derived from M. Alexandre, or any other Harmonium maker. This statement can be verified by an inspection of the Manufactory in all its branches.

BOOSEY & SONS beg further to state that the testimonials which have been furnished by the Clergy, the Profession, and the Press, have reference to EVANS'S HARMONIUMS generally (as will be seen below), and not to one particular instrument, as insinuated by the Agents for M. Alexandre.

Amused at the unexampled success of EVANS'S HARMONIUMS, these gentlemen have been led to distort the very simple fact that Mr. Evans, when making experiments on the Harmonium, (before his connexion with Boosey & Sons,) not being in a position to manufacture an instrument throughout, used the skeleton only of an Alexandre Harmonium, to which he added his own inventions and improvements, involving an outlay equal to the cost of a complete instrument.

The Harmonium (referred to as slightly altered) is now in BOOSEY & SONS' possession, and may be compared with the latest specimens of their own manufacture, which are greatly superior to it in all respects.

BOOSEY & SONS beg emphatically to deny that the superior quality of EVANS'S HARMONIUMS is produced by filing the reeds. The peculiar character, which belongs to all his Instruments (including the cheapest), is the result of the ingenuity, the invention, and perseverance of Mr. Evans, the construction of his Harmonium being totally different to that of M. Alexandre. On the other hand it may be observed, that one of Mr. Evans's own inventions—the Wind Indicator, which he omitted to patent,—has been adopted by M. Alexandre without acknowledgment.

The value of Herr Engel's opinion on the respective merits of the French and English Harmoniums will be sufficiently appreciated, when it is known that within three weeks of the present time he voluntarily proposed to Boosey & Sons to perform on, and recommend exclusively, EVANS'S HARMONIUMS. The offer was, however, immediately rejected.

In submitting the following list of *bona fide* Testimonials, Boosey & Sons wish to add that EVANS'S HARMONIUMS are used at the Royal Italian Operas, Covent Garden and Drury Lane. For the former theatre, one was selected for the opera 'Dinorah' at the request of Mr. Costa, and with the approval of M. Meyerbeer. Mr. Costa has constantly testified to the superior merits of these Instruments, and honoured the Manufacturers with frequent visits, to examine the many novel features which they contain.

TESTIMONIALS.

From the Illustrated London News, Dec. 3, 1859.

"We have examined several of the most recently constructed of these instruments; and have been greatly struck with the improvements which, during the course of nearly twenty years, Mr. Evans's persevering efforts have succeeded in making. The great difficulties with which he has had to contend were the harsh metallic tone caused by the peculiar mode of generating sound; the inequality in the scale arising from the preponderance of the bass over the treble; and the slowness of the sounds in answering the touch of the keys, whereby an effect of heaviness was produced, and light, rapid passages were almost impracticable. These defects have been got rid of in a surprising manner. The tone, throughout the entire compass of the scale, is pure, sweet, mellow, and free from that nasal sound which has hitherto clung so obstinately to the instrument, while the mechanical action has become so prompt that the most brilliant pianoforte music can be executed with clearness and precision. The impressions which we derived from our own observation are entirely consonant with those of some of our greatest musical authorities who have borne testimony to the qualities of the instrument."

From the Rev. A. E. Fowler, Widdington, Essex.

"I hereby certify that Messrs. Boosey & Sons have supplied us with one of Evans's Harmoniums with ten stops, which is now placed in our Church; and I have great pleasure in stating that the instrument is highly approved for its excellence of tone and for its great power—it being quite equal to filling our Church and to leading the village choir."

From the Rev. H. Gale, Treborough Rectory, Taunton.

"Your Harmonium is infinitely superior to those of any other maker that I am acquainted with."

Messrs. Boosey & Sons,

H. GALE."

From Cipriani Potter, Esq.

"Having heard your improved Harmonium, I state with much satisfaction that the advantages I discovered were numerous: the agreeable smooth tone, void of all harshness; the quality of the treble with the bass retaining a proper equilibrium throughout the compass, very rare in keyed instruments; also the sound responding quickly to the touch, necessary for the performance of different styles of music."

"The second row of keys is a great boon for the execution of Melodies, or Solo Parts with an accompaniment, often avoiding the necessity of crossing the hands. With all these advantages, your Harmonium must become a drawing-room instrument."

From Henry Smart, Esq.

"I have examined the Harmonium with the modifications introduced by Mr. Evans of Sheffield, and have no hesitation in giving a high opinion of its quality and capabilities. Its tone is more than ordinarily delicate, and yet with sufficient power for any purpose to which instruments of this description can fairly be applied; while satisfactory means are adopted to ensure punctuality of articulation without the use of what is termed the 'percussion action.'"

"The Harmonium, in particular, as arranged by Mr. Evans with two clavers, is a great improvement on the ordinary construction, and will be found capable of beautiful effects."

From Alfred Mellon, Esq.

"I have much pleasure in giving you my opinion upon your Harmonium; it is the best instrument of the kind I have ever heard."

From W. T. Best, Esq.

"The improvements made by Mr. Evans in the construction of Harmoniums are important and of great value."

"One of these instruments, with two clavers and a pedal board, would be a much better substitute for the Organ in a drawing-room than the ordinary Chamber Organ with four or five stops."

From Professor Sterndale Bennett.

"I have the greatest pleasure in giving you my opinion upon your improved Harmonium. The instrument you left with me I enjoyed playing on extremely, and several professional friends who saw and heard it at my house, agreed with me entirely in considering your improvements very striking and valuable. I must confess that I had before entertained some prejudice against this class of instrument, from its monotonous character, but which you have now completely removed."

From M. W. Balfe, Esq.

"I was truly delighted yesterday listening to your new Harmonium. I think it perfect, and feel quite sure of your carrying all before you with it."

EVANS'S ENGLISH HARMONIUMS are made in all Woods, at Prices varying from TEN to ONE HUNDRED GUINEAS.

Full particulars, gratis, from

BOOSEY & SONS, 24 and 28, HOLLES-STREET, LONDON.

(Manufactory, Wells-street, Oxford-street.)

Editorial Communications should be addressed to "The Editor"—Advertisements and Business Letters to "The Publisher"—at the Office, 14, Wellington-street North, Strand, London, W.C. Printed by JAMES HOLMES, of No. 4, New Ormond-street, in the county of Middlesex, at his office, 4, Took's-court, Chancery-lane, in the parish of St. Andrew, in said county; and published by J. FRANCIS, 14, Wellington-street North, in said county, Publisher, at 14, Wellington-street North aforesaid.—Agents: for Scotland, Messrs. Bell & Bradfute, Edinburgh;—for Ireland, Mr. J. R. Robertson, Dublin.—Saturday, December 24, 1859.

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